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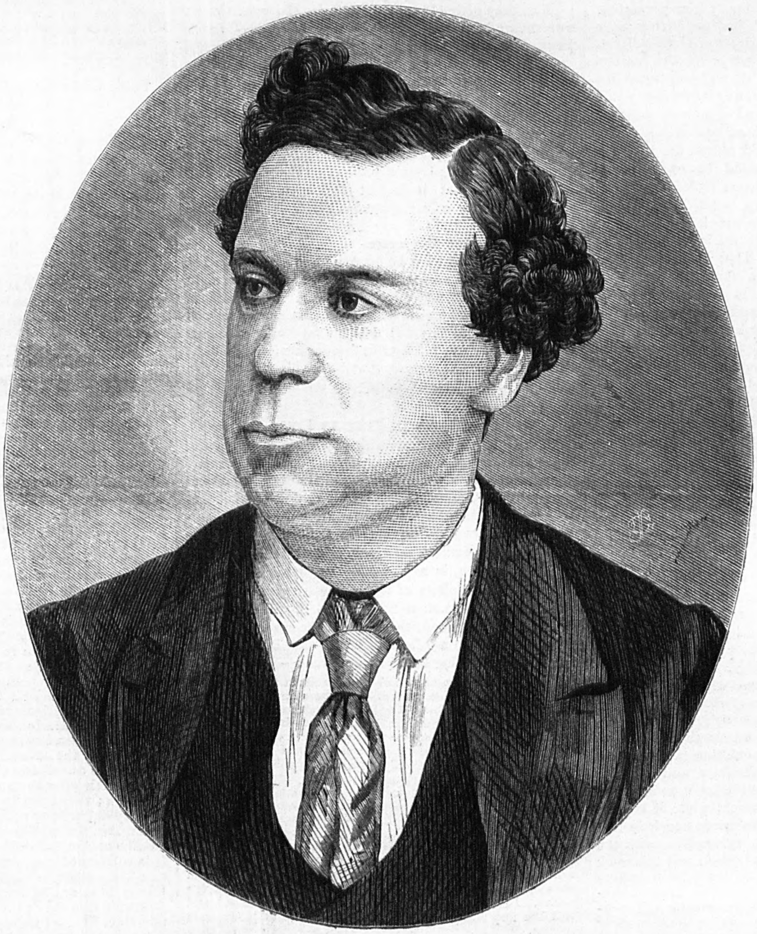


MR. J. L. TOOLE.—*From a Photograph by the Stereoscopic Company.*

SHOP AT KENSINGTON.

AS far as possible there must be free trade in buying and selling. We must not permit ourselves to listen to the complaints of shopkeepers who claim to monopolise all the custom because they pay rent and rates. We are familiar with their denunciations of markets, of hawking, of auctions, and of temporary sales by travelling dealers in public buildings. When the "new social movement" was announced a few weeks ago, we did not think highly of the points which were intended to form the basis of a new revolution in favour of the "proletariat;" and the scheme for establishing markets in which provisions should be sold by retail at wholesale prices seemed to us especially ridiculous; but at the same time there was nothing very commendable in the arguments of those shopkeepers who wrote to the papers deprecating the pretty little market scheme on the ground that such markets would prevent tradespeople from getting a living. There cannot be a doubt that shopkeeping should be left to take care of itself, like all other branches of human industry, and if it could be so managed that a smaller percentage fell to the share of those who come between the producer and the consumer it would be an advantageous thing for the public; for no one can observe closely what is going on in society without being convinced that there is a great deal of bad economy—in time, labour, and cost—in the machinery by which the chief products of the earth are made to reach the hands of those for whose service and benefit they are intended.

All this, however, does not tend to convince us that the traders are not justified, on some grounds at least, in their opposition to the scheme of turning the International Exhibitions into shops for the selling of goods. Leaving the interests of the merchant class to take care of themselves, we cannot avoid the conclusion that the exhibitions will suffer very seriously from permitting people to sell their "exhibits" just as if they were behind their counters in Regent-street or Oxford-street. The intention to present themselves to the visitors as vendors could not fail to act perniciously upon the choice of articles sent for show. The stall-keeper would care less for the actual rarity and genuinely superior quality of his wares than for their *ad captandum* points and the likelihood that they would attract the attention of careless purchasers, who would be no judge of novelty or real merit. It was a grave fault of the great Exposition on the Champ de Mars, in 1867, that while a large quantity of good, well-made articles were shown, there was a marked paucity generally of objects of special and peculiar interest. That Paris Exposition was, indeed, by far too much of a shop, and it suffered very seriously in character and in influence thereby. The same thing would occur at South Kensington. We should almost cease to get samples of work exhibited notable for single-minded and devoted attention to the working out of an idea, with a view to future improvements rather than present gain. The doleful corridors round the Royal Horticultural Gardens would be rendered more doleful still by the fact that all the exhibitors were caring about was to sell an article on the stall or to obtain an order.

The exhibitions should be kept, as far as possible, within the domain of ingenuity and art for ingenuity and art's sake; and a man should exhibit as much for love of the progress of civilising influences as for the purpose of letting the world know that he is the maker of articles which they ought to buy.

Then there is, surely, something undignified in turning the show into a mere mart. These exhibitions are the pet things of Sovereigns, statesmen, and literati, and they ought to be kept entirely for intellectual purposes and for affording information to the public as to what is taking place in the world of industry.

There are several circumstances which tell against the ultimate success of the series of shows inaugurated this year. The place is not favourable, and it may be that the programme is not the wisest that could be made. It will take time and much thoughtful care to override these and many other difficulties, and it would surely be unwise to create trouble by introducing a system of buying and selling which, while it offends tradesmen outside, will not fail to annoy people inside. Therefore while we do not wholly sympathise with the London shopkeepers and others who have met this week to protest against the changing of the exhibitions into markets, we trust they will succeed in their movement, and induce the Council to reconsider the commercial aspects of their scheme; for we look with anxiety for the ultimate success of this in many respects noble plan of international exhibitions.

A VIRGINIA editor has come to the conclusion that a man might as well undertake to hold himself at arm's length and then turn a double somersault over a church steeple as to attempt to publish a paper that will suit everybody.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS exercise most wonderful power in promoting appetite, improving digestion, regulating the bowels, and removing nervousness and debility. The weakest will take no harm from the use of this alterative and tonic medicine, but will gradually regain their health. The strongest will preserve themselves from many of the mishaps into which their boasted strength and fearlessness of results often betray them. Long suffering invalids may look towards this rectifying and revivifying medicine with the certain hope of having their maladies mitigated, if not removed, by their means. In short, for all ages, circumstances, and conditions Holloway points out the treatment which is competent to check the progress of disorders in, and expel its seeds from, the human frame. [475

OUR LONDON NOTE BOOK.

TOOLE.

THE word alone is enough. Who wants the prefix "Mr." before the name of the most popular of popular comedians? What necessity is there for "J. L."? "Toole" is a familiar name in the mouths of all English playgoers who love a bit of genuine fun, and who go to the theatre to shake off dull care, and to get themselves somehow into a happy mood. He is the invariable prescription for melancholy, and the recipe never fails.

That is the man whose portrait we give to-day on our front page. Is there a reader among the thousands who, we hope, con this column, not familiar with the features of this inimitable master of rollicking facetiousness? There surely need not be, for Mr. Toole treats his vast constituency most handsomely. He does not keep out of their sight. He does not compel them to come from all quarters of the compass to see him. He visits them all at their quiet homes in the country, and is sure to be in his very best mood when he makes his bow to his friends from behind the provincial footlights.

Mr. Toole is by nature a humourist. This is a fact of which not sufficient note is taken by some critics. There are great actors by virtue of their mimetic power. They can reproduce the conception of the author to the very life, making the fine dream of imagination a reality before the eyes of the audience; and this is true alike in tragedy and in comedy. In the mental constitution of such men it may be that there is little or no originality, or fertility, or wit; yet they succeed well, and deserve to succeed, since it is their profession to be players, and they are that to perfection. But there is all the while an abundance of room on the boards for the man of independent genius, and let severe critics say what they may the public will recognise and pay their devoirs to the actor of that stamp, heaping honours upon him, perhaps, such as they withhold sometimes from the man who is mimetic and dramatic and stops there. David Garrick himself, as a comedian, would inaugurate for himself a conception of a character for which he accepted the cast, and thenceforward it became necessary to do the part as Garrick had done it—as nearly as the luckless imitators could follow their master. *Lord Dundreary*, perhaps the most successful piece of character-drawing by an actor ever presented to the public, is not the author's but the player's production: and who shall say therefore that it is not legitimate? So long as the world admires genius it will follow the men who have it, and pay little heed to fine-drawn theories of what the actor ought to do with the author's work and what he ought to leave undone. Let the play and the character to be portrayed be what they may, people will go and see Mr. Toole because he is Mr. Toole, because he is a born humourist as well as an actor; and they will take his version of the part and be glad to get it. So this famous comedian will be the people's favourite so long as he is able to crawl upon the boards, and may the day be far distant when he makes his last speech.

ARTISTES IN PRIVATE LIFE.

The public, who entertain something in the nature of a personal regard for great artistes who have for many years occupied a prominent position at high places of entertainment, are always pleased to know what becomes of those who have retired from behind the footlights and taken their places in the ranks of private life. There is, indeed, no gossip much more interesting than that which, in a becoming spirit, occupies itself with the quiet doings of those whose every movement was in former days as well known as those of a Royal personage. We need, therefore, make no apology for transcribing from a "London Letter" of last week the following interesting bit of information:—

> An extraordinary person is about to settle in this country—a country where she made most of her fortune and much of her fame. I allude to Mdlle. Taglioni, the celebrated dancer. I need not remind you that this illustrious lady is a countess and a widow. She had a son who was a lieutenant of Zouaves. He fought against the Germans, and was wounded in battle. He was taken prisoner. Curiously enough, he was handed over to the tender mercies of his own cousin. Mdlle. Taglioni comes to England for the purpose of giving lessons in dancing. She does not return to the stage; and her educational avocations will be strictly confined to private as distinct from theatrical life. Mdlle. Taglioni is rather disgusted with the French people, and her reminiscences of England are eminently agreeable. It must not be supposed that she is in distress; but she loves her profession, and seeks in the metropolis of England a pleasant relief from the monotony of sorrow and anxiety of which she has been the victim. I need not say that she will be warmly welcomed, and that she may freely indulge in the expectation of professional success.

Who that wants to know how to dance would not be eager to take lessons of Mdlle. Taglioni? To have received but one professional hint from the world-famous *danseuse* ought to make one's reputation in the ball-room.

BOHEMIAN INGENUITY.

We cull the following little metropolitan note from the "London Letter" of the *Eastern Morning News*, published in Hull:—

> I have noticed this week, between St. Paul's and Trafalgar-square, an individual doing a fairly good trade in a somewhat peculiar way. He is respectably dressed and of good manners, as such practitioners invariably are. Early one morning he accosted me. He had, he said, come out to his work, but had inadvertently forgotten to take sufficient money to pay his fare by the steamer to Blackwall: had I confidence enough in human nature to lend him one penny, the deficiency in the fare? The confidence in human nature required for the bestowal of one penny to enable a man to get to his work is not excessive, and I complied. I found, however, that a great deal of confidence had been reposed in the same individual that morning, for a friend had given him a penny, and, in short, the man asked for the "completion of his fare" from most of the likely-looking persons he met with. The next day he would try another beat, and so forth. In the course of an hour he might pick up a couple of shillings, and turn to some other line of business later in the day. Is it probable that all possible varieties of swindling may some day become exhausted, and rogues turn to honest ways for want of pastures new?

THE LONG VACATION.

We fear Mr. Vernon Harcourt has not rendered himself popular in his profession by his vehement denunciation of the long vacation in his remarkable address read before the Jurisprudence Section of the recent Social Science Congress. We have seen some severe protests, but we do not remember one so likely to strike home as the following amusing epistle, which appeared in the *Law Journal*:—

> SIR,—My husband has just read to me a speech made by that dreadful man, Mr. Vernon Harcourt, the gentleman who is a member of Parliament and a cousin of the good Princess Louise, who is the admiration of every one in this part of the world. Mr. Harcourt says my husband is to have no more holidays. This is awful news for me. I live, Mr. Editor, in a dull sort of square in London, though my house is large and every comfort in it; for my husband is very good, and he makes a wonderful income in Lincoln's Inn. We always go to London about October 24, and from that day to August 16 in the next year I never see my husband. He gets up between seven and eight, eats no proper breakfast, and is gone before half-past nine. He holds the *Times* in one hand and a cup of tea in the other, and calls that breakfast. He never comes back before seven o'clock in the evening; then we have dinner, for which he has not much appetite, and as soon as he has had one or two glasses of wine he falls asleep on the sofa. He wakes up at nine o'clock, has tea, and disappears into the library till long after midnight. It almost breaks my heart to hear of November Term; but I look forward and backward to my autumn holidays, and console myself with the thought of them. But if there are to be no holidays, and my husband is to go all the year round to those Chancery Courts, he will die of overwork, and I of solitude and grief. I shall then no longer subscribe myself as I do now,
>
> PLACENS UXOR.

There can be no doubt that the life of the barrister is a life of very hard work during term. Mr. Harcourt thinks that professional gentlemen who are deeply engaged may take holiday when they please, and leave others to do the work in their absence, just as in all other departments of business or profession seasons of recreation are managed. It may be contended, however, on the other hand, that the long vacation itself indirectly helps to afford thousands of Londoners the opportunity of a holiday.

REVIVAL OF COMMUNISM.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Times* says that the extreme party is lifting its head once more, and doing so with an air of menace which frightens the timid peasant, and still more cowardly *bourgeois*, from the polling booths. He adds:—"Not merely in the great cities, but in the small towns and even villages, are to be found knots of determined Socialists, more or less pronounced in their opinions and mode of expressing them, who do not, it is true, dare to proceed to acts of violence, but against whose wishes the *bourgeoisie* do not venture to vote, from an abstract fear of the consequences which might arise if some day this much dreaded class came again to the surface. It is impossible for persons accustomed to speak and vote freely, and to use their fists in cases of emergency, to form any idea of the political pusillanimity of the French middle-class or rural voter. A few determined Radicals in each political section could prevent the whole population from voting, or force them to vote as they directed, and this is the reason why the Government have to take measures to protect the electors; but, on the other hand, the presence of troops round the urns is a pretty broad hint to the population, or at least the latter take it as one, that they are expected to vote in the direction from which their protection comes; so that to expect to know by their votes what are the political opinions of a nation whose leading characteristic is fear seems utterly hopeless. Meantime, the prisoners who arrive daily from the hulks are under no delusion as to the respect with which their character for ferocity invests them. The change is already apparent in the attitude of the working population of Paris. The cowed and timid aspect which they exhibited immediately after the suppression of the Commune has left them; they revel in the notoriety which their sanguinary deeds have secured for them, and are not afraid to threaten the middle-classes with a recurrence of the months of April and May in a still more bloody form. It is sufficient to converse with the employers of labour on a large scale to obtain confirmation of these facts. I hear from one of them who employs 1,500 hands at Belleville that the insolence of his men is becoming intolerable. Out of those in the employ of this gentleman 70 were shot during the days of the Commune, and 200 sent as prisoners to the hulks. The greater part of these have returned, and do not attempt to restrain their feelings or to conceal their determination to be revenged on the wealthy classes. The fact that they had not done a stroke of work since August of last year has completely unfitted them for a return to honest labour. They have been so accustomed to their 30 sous a day during the first siege, to the riot and independence of the Commune during the second, and to the idleness and grumbling of their prison life since, that their only anxiety is how they may get money without working for it; and my informant, who himself began life as an advanced Radical, having a good deal to lose whenever the threatened revenge occurs, does not hesitate to express his regret that all his hands have not been shot."

COUNTRY LIFE.

The Birmingham Free Library.

We add this week another to our long list of pictures illustrating the public buildings and institutions of the country, and forming a sort of fine art accompaniment to our studies of country life. That engraving on page 104 shows the interior of the reading room belonging to the reference department of the Birmingham Free Library.

Every reading and intellectual man who has sojourned in Birmingham has experienced the comfort and advantage of that admirable and excellently managed reference library. Of course it is, speaking in general terms, a modern library. Old and valuable works are there, but they are chance additions, and the shelves are simply furnished as those of any new library ought to be furnished where there is a fair amount of funds at command, and where the business is managed by a committee of very intelligent and, at the same time, practical men. It is the fortune of Birmingham to possess a large number of gentlemen of a calibre superior to that of the ordinary public man in large towns; and it is its misfortune that the great bulk of the population are rather below than above the common level of intellectuality as times go. The great working classes of the midland capital possess fine qualities of industry and mechanical skill, but they are not a people much given to books, or culture, or mental pastime of any sort; and the handful of able and thoughtful gentlemen who represent the people struggle against great difficulties, and do all that lies in their power to make Birmingham perform its part as well in intellectual as in industrial life.

They have provided this costly library, and they are never discouraged in their labours, or for a moment contemplate retracing their steps, because the people as a body do not avail themselves of the advantages offered. There is the library; there are the thousands upon thousands of reference books, whereby a man might pursue any study whatever in almost any direction and to almost any length; but go at any hour of the day or evening into the room which our artist has sketched, and you will see only a small sprinkling of readers. But Birmingham is prepared for the times that are coming; she is patient, and she waits without chafing.

In the *Birmingham Morning News* a few months ago appeared a series of very carefully compiled letters on the Birmingham Free Libraries, written, we believe, by Dr. Langford, who is perfectly cognisant of the history of the vast town in which he has spent so many years of his life. From those letters we will pick out a few interesting facts concerning this important literary institution.

The writer reminds us that it was in 1850 that the Museums and Libraries Act was passed, enabling town councils to establish public libraries and museums in towns; and it appears that the Act had not become law more than a year and a half before measures were taken to found a free library in Birmingham; but the project was defeated when it came to a poll of the ratepayers; for though there was a majority in favour of the scheme, it was not a majority amounting to two-thirds. Seven years later the perseverance of the advocates of education was rewarded with success, but at that time there existed at least twenty free libraries under the provisions of the Act throughout the country, and Birmingham, considering its size and importance, must be regarded as having allowed itself to be rather discreditably beaten in the race of intellectual progress.

Once the business was out of the hands of the obstructives the work began to be done well. The resolution having been adopted, it was not necessary to appeal to the burgesses on matters of detail, and so the matters of detail were carried out in the most liberal manner. Four lending libraries were established in different parts of the town, whereof that represented by our picture is the central and chief. The first sum of money voted for books was £450, intended for the purchase of a nucleus of 3,000 volumes. The cost of establishment and maintenance for the first year was set down at £3,252, and to that estimate the Town Council agreed. In 1861 the committee purchased a very good library existing in the town for £300, consisting of 6,500 volumes. In the first annual report it is stated that in 287 days 108,057 volumes were lent out, and 5,422 persons were enrolled as borrowers; and it was announced that upwards of 2,000 books had been added to the collection. As for the building of the Central Library, it appears, from this same report, that £10,500 voted by the Council had proved insufficient for the undertaking. The following is a summary of facts resulting in 1866:—

> In 1866 we had provided the Reference Library, the Central Lending Library and Newsroom, the libraries in Constitution Hill, Deritend, and Adderley Park, each with its newsroom. In purchasing books for the Reference Library, the committee were guided by three principles:—1. That the library should, as far as practicable, represent every phase of human thought and every variety of opinion. 2. That books of permanent value and of standard interest should form the principal portion of the library, and that modern and popular books should be added from time to time, as they are published. 3. That it should contain those rare and costly works which are generally out of the reach of individual students and collectors, and which are not usually found in provincial or private libraries. At the time of opening, the Reference Library contained 16,195 volumes in general literature, and 2,030 of specifications of patents; and in the fifty-four days of 1866 on which the room was open 11,468 books were issued, which was an average of 212·3 per day. The Central Lending Library contained 11,276 volumes, had 7,148 borrowers, and made during the year 164,120 issues, or a daily average of 5,882. The Constitution Hill Library contained 7,065 volumes, issued 36,747, or a daily average of 142; the Deritend had 4,447 volumes, was open fifty-one days, and issued 8,622 volumes. Adderley Park had 2,345 volumes, and issued during the year 9,383.

Two years later the Gosta Green Branch Library and Newsroom was opened; and thus in eight years the scheme of the committee was realised. The expenditure for building, &c., up to that period had been about £16,000.

A final review of the work at the commencement of this year did not present altogether satisfactory results. It appeared that in the year 1870, out of a population of 370,000, only 10,500 persons had borrowed books. Of these nearly 7,500 were under the age of twenty-five. A classification of the occupations of the borrowers showed that the largest number were of "no occupation," that clerks, bookkeepers, &c., stood next, scholars and students next, miscellaneous next, and that there were comparatively few mechanics or labourers among the readers. Here is Dr. Langford's analysis of the report:—

> Brass-founding is one of our staple trades, and the numbers employed at the various branches of this important industry are estimated at over 8,000, of whom 6,000 are men and boys, and 2,000 women and girls; and yet only 292 are returned as borrowers working at this trade. But there is even a more strange and astounding fact to record than this. In the button trade some 6,000 people find employment, and yet that trade is not represented at all among the borrowers of books from our lending libraries! The gunmakers, numbering between 7,000 and 8,000, give us 191 borrowers; the glassworkers of the town, estimated at some 2,000, provide seventy-five borrowers; and the whole of the building trades, employing some thousands of workers, give fifty-five. The jewellers, as might have been anticipated, are considerably above the average of other trades. This industry gives employment to some 7,000 persons, and the trade is represented by 576 borrowers. The printers and compositors are also above the average, and supply 235 borrowers from between 2,000 and 3,000 persons engaged in that craft. The letter-carriers, who number nearly 130, have only twelve borrowers; and out of a force of 400 men, the police only nine.

On the other hand, the writer may reasonably regard it as a favourable sign that so large a proportion of the readers are young people. In this fact is there hope for the future, but at the same time, as he says, though there are 4,000 readers between the ages of fourteen and twenty, forming nearly one-half the total number of borrowers of books, this is not much out of something like 70,000 persons between those ages living in the town.

The reports of the Birmingham Free Libraries point the way to the School Board. Great, indeed, is the work that lies waiting to be done under the Education Acts of these last two or three years.

The First of November.

As there are phases of life, not confined to one or to half a dozen countries, which we always recognise as suggestive of old Dutch pictures, so is there a class of "subjects"—using the word in the artist's sense—which are peculiar to the municipal election in an ancient borough. What a story of fancy scenes of that order might not some of our provincial public men contribute to local history, had they but the will to render faithful sketches and the graphic art to fill in all the rich and mellow details! But it is not given to men to see themselves as others see them, and we may not hope from gentlemen who have passed the Alderman's bench, and have occupied some once or twice or three or four times the chair of the Right Worshipful the Mayor, that they will reproduce, with all the effects of the moment, those passages in the history of their town when the strife has been keen, and when it has been their good fortune to be returned, or their disaster to be rejected, by the free burgesses at the municipal election.

These honours and these disappointments have not been ours, but we can recall many a little cabinet picture which, had we but a small share of the gift of the Flemish painter, we might reproduce in such a shape that it would be regarded, in days to come, as a valuable illustration of the manners and customs of the free English people during the first half century of the working of our local institutions under the auspices of the Municipal Corporation Act.

What memorable meetings were some of those in the large parlour of the Fox and Grapes Inn, where we met to nominate candidates and to steal a march on those dirty rascals of the opposite party, who were thinking to spring a surprise upon us, and to carry the ward by disreputable arts! *We* were all straightforward and honest. *We* nailed our flag to the mast for everybody to see. Here were our men, and we meant to carry them in. Over long pipes and pints of ale we laid our plans; with the bottoms of tumbler glasses on the table we thumped applause of the excellent exposition of local politics propounded by the nominees and those by whom they were nominated. We never imagined, till this comfortable coterie was formed, what utter nonsense was contained in that address which had been issued to the electors by the candidates on the other side. But the real charm of the evening was the hour when the mere audience were gone, when the candidates had prudentially retired from the room, and when the newly-appointed committee—with never a greenhorn amongst them—drew up in a small, quiet group over the fire, and ordered glasses of brandy-and-water, and discussed the business of the coming election with bated breath. There, while the firelight flickered on their faces, while some old stager related anecdotes of the tricks which, in former contests, had been contrived on one side and foiled on the other, and when the keenest man of the party thought the time had come for letting his colleagues into the light of some circumstance in the forthcoming struggle which would render an altogether novel line of tactics necessary—at some such moment as that would we have the artist appear stealthily upon the scene and transfer the living features of the group to his note-book.

And not at these nomination meetings only, but at subsequent and less publicly advertised assemblies of the conspirators, may one study peculiar and amusing aspects of provincial life such as would very much puzzle the unsophisticated visitor who wished to make himself acquainted with the real spirit and working of our institutions. We would like to introduce such a philosopher into the Ward Committee Room on the day of election. How he would admire the zeal! How he would marvel at the excitement! What homage must he render to the calm philosophic agent, who comes in and goes out of the room at intervals, carrying away a bit of information with him about some voter whose name is not yet scratched off the list, asking nobody how the day is going and vouchsafing little or no answer to those who make inquiries. Put a question to this last character in the play—if you have the honour of his acquaintance—and he will look at you dubiously for a few seconds, and then take you on one side, not answering your question—for that has passed from his mind—but letting you a little into the depths of some profound mystery, and extracting from you a little bit of information, not about a voter, but with respect to some friend of yours who employs a voter or who lets a cottage to and has some little difficulty in getting his rent of a voter. It takes some time to learn the game, but when you are initiated you find it intensely interesting. You see the name of the enemy, Smith, nearly at the top of the poll, and you suggest to your well-informed friend that Smith must not be allowed to occupy that position; "the tide," you opine, "must somehow be turned against him." "Smith?" says your friend, regarding you with a half mysterious, patronising air of commiseration. "We don't care for Smith; Smith will be nowhere in two hours; 'tis Jones we have to fight"—and sure enough you observe presently that Smith is slipping every quarter of an hour lower and lower upon the list, Jones is coming to the fore, and in the course of the afternoon, while Jones and your own favourite candidate are running a neck-and-neck race for the foremost place, you meet Smith lounging along with his hands in his trousers pockets. He acknowledges that for him the game has been over for hours, and explains that he has been "sold."

Novel Experiment in Trial by Jury.

It appears that those who empannel juries in the Principality are not particular as to the lingual accomplishments of those whom they "warn on" and swear to make true deliverance between our Sovereign Lady the Queen and the prisoner at the bar. The following is an extract from a letter which appeared the other day in the *North Wales Chronicle*:—

> I stood for a while in the Court-house, Beaumaris, yesterday, while a case of pocket-picking and sheep-stealing was on, and, casting my eyes towards the jury gallery, I said to myself that the learned chairman might as well have addressed twelve boiled turnips as the twelve jury in the above cases. I have since been told by one of the fresh jury empannelled to try the lamb-stealing case that not one of the jurymen in the above-named cases understood what the Chairman said to them in his summing-up.

The Chairman spoke in Anglo-Saxon, and the jurymen understood nothing but Welsh! But since the Welsh language, as our neighbours in the Principality assure us, was spoken by Adam and Eve, and is the dialect of Paradise, it may not be necessary to be acquainted with a mere modern and profane tongue like ours in order to hold aright the scales of justice and to discover as much of the eternal truth of things as may lead to a knowledge of the guilt or innocence of a creature charged, in an English court, with an offence. What to them was the summing-up of the Chairman? The evidence was probably given in Welsh, and, if there be any truth in much that we have heard about justice in Wales, the jurymen probably knew all about the case before it went into court, and were clear as to the verdict before anybody was sworn.

The *North German Gazette* contains a communicated article, in which it is maintained that the friendly attitude taken up by Germany towards France is in consonance with the interests of Germany and the free initiative of the Imperial Government, which seeks to secure a lasting peace.

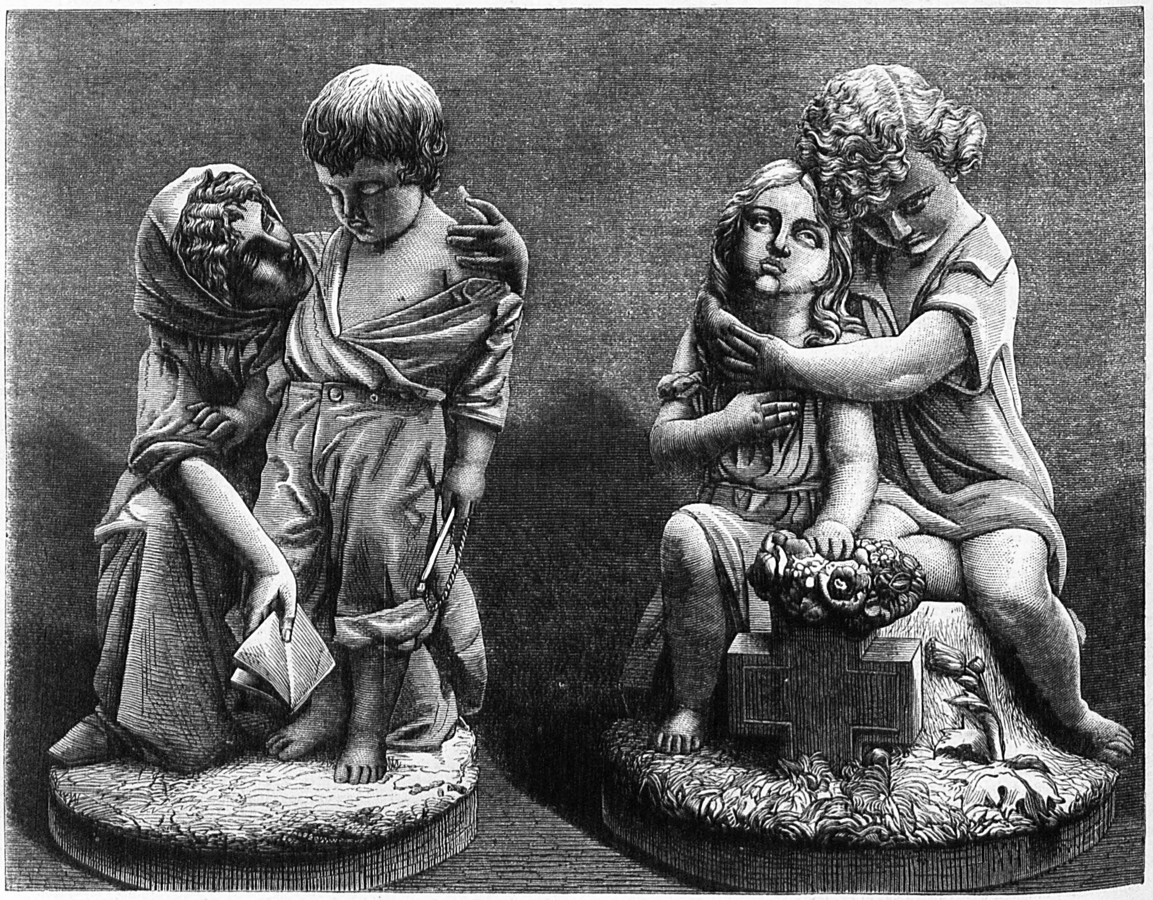
All the members on the Electoral Committee of the Council-General for Corsica are anti-Bonapartist.

SUPERSTITION AND CHOLERA IN RUSSIA.

A correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette*, writing from St. Petersburg, sends that journal some curious details regarding the means employed by the superstitious in Russia to avert the effects of cholera. One of the most curious results of the cholera, he says, has been to bring out in various localities certain revelations of Paganism. The spread of this mysterious and terrible disease led to the supposition of a divine chastisement, and attempts were made to seek protection from it by practices which seemed to have fallen into oblivion for centuries. It is a remarkable fact that Christians and Jews showed this leaning towards Pagan customs in an equal degree. Among the Jews superstition seems to ally itself with rabbinical zeal. In the district of Vitebsk the cholera had in a short time carried off 500 victims among the Jewish population. The rabbis consequently ordered that, as a means of charming away the disease, the nuptials of two couples should be blessed in the cemetery. The marriage presents were to be furnished by charitable gifts, and the other expenses covered in the same manner. The excitement caused by the ceremony and the feasting which followed increased the severity of the cholera and the number of the victims. Then the heads of the synagogue sent about agents instructed to levy a redemptory tax on the Jewish population, by which the Jews would ransom themselves from the illness. In spite of the redemptory tax, however, the ravages of the cholera increased, and the rabbis became still more devoted to their system. They forbade calling in doctors, and required that in order to cleanse themselves from transgression the members of the Jewish body should denounce each other for offences against morality. The result of this was a horrible scandal; accusations, backbitings, calumnies, all the more destructive that every one supposed himself to be piously employed. Among the Christians superstition assumed a somewhat less scandalous form. An attempt was made in the Russian villages to protect the inhabitants by tracing a magic circle round the spot threatened. The women, wearing their hair dishevelled, like the representations of the Russalkas, or spirits of the elements, came forward in a long procession. Sometimes their number was fixed at twelve, with their leader. Several among them were yoked to a plough, which was driven by the others, till the furrow surrounded the whole village. In other places a "sacred fire" was kindled by rubbing logs of wood together, and fumigating the whole village with the burning pieces. Although these superstitious practices were less terrible than those of the Jews of Vitebsk, they no less prove that the Christian priests have uprooted Paganism as little as ignorance. The further one advances towards the East the more active is the Pagan tendency among the nominally Christian population. In the Government of Kazan, among tribes which have belonged to the Russian Empire for more than three hundred years, and dwell almost at the gates of Moscow, Christianity has not yet taken root. The population adores sacred trees as it did three hundred years ago, and the priests can only identify themselves with these customs. To preserve decorum the priests fasten images of saints to the trees or else they form processions along the furrows traced at night by the women. The position of the priests is so miserable that they are obliged to associate themselves with these superstitious ceremonies, otherwise they would be denied their daily bread. In this state of things the Mahometan propaganda is carried on with much activity and success, It acts especially upon the Tartars in the Government of Kazan, and in other districts on the Volga. In the month of September last whole villages abandoned the Russian orthodox faith, and went over to Islamism. This movement is partly promoted by the rich Tartars, many of whom have remained Mahometans, and are better instructed in their faith than the baptised Russians in theirs. The strength of the attraction towards Islamism may therefore easily be understood. It could only be counteracted by a better educated and more independent clergy.

CRIME IN THE ARMY.

The report of the Inspector-General of Military Prisons is just issued. The statistics refer to the year 1870, and we subjoin the principal remarks of Captain Du Cane:—Millbank receives now by far the greatest number of men, as shown by the number who passed into it in the course of the year (1,352), and the number who were in it at the end of the year (310), compared with the numbers in the others. It is difficult at present to estimate the effect of the change which has been thus made on crime in the army, and especially to separate the effects of this change from that of others which have been made recently in the army, such as the system of fining, the discharge of bad characters, improvements in the number enlisting, and so on; but it is certain that the change secures a uniformity in the carrying out of the sentences and a strictness of discipline which have hitherto not existed and not been possible. The change which has occurred from these and other causes in regard to crime in the army is shown by the return giving the number of court-martials and other punishments, &c., for the last three years, which shows a decrease of forty-five per cent. in the sentences of court-martial, and of twelve per cent. in minor punishments. The number of soldiers in prisons in Great Britain and Ireland on the 31st of December of the past three years exhibits a considerable progressive diminution. The statistics of the military prisons have not hitherto shown the whole state of crime in the army, because no account was taken of those prisoners who passed their sentences in civil gaols, a number which was not inconsiderable. The returns accompanying this report contain the required information. Although it does not strictly pertain to the report of 1870 to notice what is occurring in 1871, it seems right to observe the great increase in crime within the last few months, as shown by the number of prisoners admitted. The number in Government prisons in Great Britain and Ireland on the 21st of July, 1871, was as under:—Gosport, 121; Greenlaw, 42; Cork, 81; Dublin, 104; Limerick, 76; Millbank, 588; total, 1,012, which shows an increase of 363 as compared with the 31st December, 1870. This is to be attributed partly of course to the increased numbers in the army of Great Britain and Ireland, which is 100,970 against 84,848, the average of last year, but principally, if general opinion is to be trusted, to the system of paying soldiers weekly instead of daily. A change of this kind is not likely to have been made without producing among the thoughtless and uncontrolled some such effect as has actually been the result; but there is little doubt, I venture to think, that it is correct in principle, for no men of the same class in civil life have been in the habit of receiving their pay daily, and if the practice was introduced into the army in order that the men might not have money enough to indulge in a debauch it certainly did not produce the desired result. It is believed that this can be effected only by raising the ideas and feelings of the soldier, and teaching him to care for and improve himself; and as he is now afforded great inducements to do so, it is reasonable to expect that he will take advantage of them. It is, indeed, I venture to think, a subject for consideration whether it would not be an improvement even to pay the soldiers only monthly, as they would be more likely to value the accumulation of a month with a view to future use, and at all events would have the temptation to a debauch less frequently. Desertion and absence without leave have brought considerably more men into the prisons than any other crime. About half of the men sentenced for these crimes had been previously tried by court-martial, and of those tried for absence nearly half had been tried before for the same offence. Of those tried for desertion only about a quarter had been previously tried for the same crime. These crimes, however, are much less in number than last year, but the number of cases of insubordination is about the same, and this crime is, in fact, the only one which has not materially diminished. The medical officers in several cases report a loss of weight in many of the men during their course of punishment. The subject is carefully attended to, and an order has been given that prisoners in Millbank should be weighed frequently in order to keep their condition in reference to the punishment they are undergoing steadily in view, especially in connection with the endeavour to carry out the recommendation of the Court-martial Commission, as to having the labour enforced on the prisoners of a penal and heavy character, as detailed in my report for 1869. The bounty system having been abolished, the motive for fraudulent enlistments has been of course removed; and the practice of marking with the letter D has been no longer necessary as a precaution against fraudulent enlistments, and has been abolished.



Orphans. Marble Group by Professor A. Tantardini.

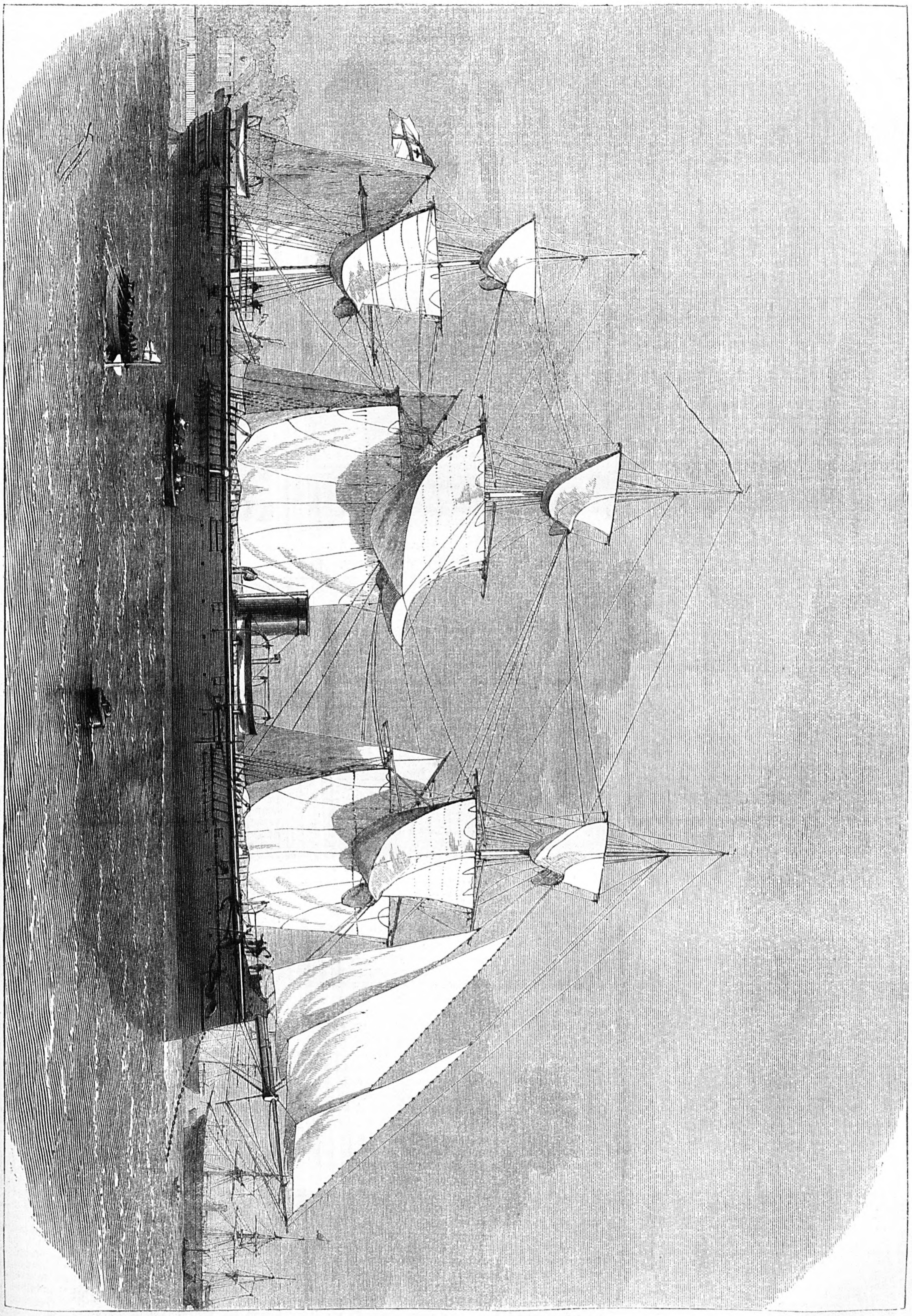
Left Behind. Marble Group by E. A. W. Wilke.

SCULPTURE IN THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

The Board of Trade have issued a circular, pointing out to the friends and relatives of boys and persons seeking employment at sea, as well as to the owners and agents of ships, that by the 141st Section of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1871, all superintendents of mercantile marine offices are required to give to "persons desirous of apprenticing boys to the sea service, and to masters and owners of ships requiring apprentices, such assistance as is in their power for facilitating the making of such apprenticeships."

On Saturday afternoon the Elcho Shield, won this year by English marksmen, was, with some ceremonial, entrusted to the Corporation of London. A muster of the various rifle corps took place in Finsbury-square, and they then marched to Guildhall, where the Lord Mayor, in the name of the City of London, took charge of the shield. It was won by the Scotch team last year. A dinner was given by the Hon. Artillery Company in the evening.

The Fourth Court-Martial has sentenced to death Quesnel, who had been found guilty of having taken part in the late insurrection and having set on fire the Paris buildings.



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NEW YORK: 82, FIFTH AVENUE. [425

FOR PICTURE FRAMES, PICTURE FRAMING, MOULDINGS, &c.—EMDIN'S. [See advt. last page.] [451

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ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company was formed in November, 1870, for the purpose of establishing a regular line of powerful steamers from London to the Cape, Algoa Bay, and Port Natal, the want of which had long been felt by the Cape Colonies.

The chartered steamers of the Company sail on the 4th of each month from London, calling at Dartmouth on the 7th to embark passengers, also (if required) at Madeira and St. Helena outwards, and at Capetown, St. Helena, and Madeira homewards. Two of the steamers have made the quickest passage on record, viz., in 26½ days, the average of the passages having been 32 5-6 days, being 5 1-6 days under mail contract time. The screw steamer Marc Antony, sailing on the 7th inst., has every cabin engaged, takes £117,000 in specie, and a large cargo.

The Cape statistics show that the value of imports increased from £1,883,000 in 1868 to £2,237,000 in 1870, the value of exports (exclusive of diamonds) from £2,215,000 in 1868 to £2,453,000 in 1870, whilst the imports of specie increased from £15,100 in 1869 to £150,000 in 1870, and £600,000 up to August of the present year. It also appears that the export of wool, which was only 694 bales in 1834, has since increased by steady gradations to 141,916 bales in 1868.

The discovery of diamonds in the colony adds considerably to the passenger traffic, and special attention is directed to the fact that full homeward freights may be relied on.

The debentureholders will have the security of the uncalled capital of the Company, and of the steamers, which are estimated to cost upwards of £140,000, as they are completed. W. J. Adams, Esq. (chairman), and S. B. Edenborough, Esq., will act as trustees under a proper deed of trust (a draft of which can be seen at the offices of the solicitors of the Company). The steamers will be kept fully insured.

From the experience gained by the chartered steamers hitherto employed the directors consider that with steamers built for the trade with every modern improvement, and the use of compound engines for economising the consumption of coal, &c., thus leaving greater space for cargo, the profits will be (after allowing for insurance and depreciation) from £2,000 to £3,000 at least per voyage, which, after fully providing for the interest on the debentures, will leave a sum amply sufficient for a large dividend on the ordinary shares. The Union Company, whose steamers run from Southampton to the Cape, have regularly paid large dividends.

Shares of existing steam companies command high premiums, as shown by the following table:—

General Steam Navigation Company	£14	paid,	stand at	£31 to £33
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Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company ………	£50	,,	,,	£51
Royal Mail Steamship Company ……	£60	,,	,,	£80
Union Steamship Company (to the Cape of Good Hope and Natal)…	£20	,,	,,	£25 to £30

Applications for debentures and shares to be addressed in the accompanying form to Messrs. Binney, Verner, and Hollebone, 1, Threadneedle Street, but no application will be considered unless a deposit of £10 per cent. for each debenture and £3 for each share applied for shall have been previously made with the bankers of the Company. In the event of no allotment being made, the whole of the deposit will be returned. [522

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THE Illustrated NEWSPAPER

London, November 11, 1871.

The Tichborne case is again before the public. For weeks it will be the leading feature in the morning papers, and newsboys will stop the traffic on the pathways with never-ending editions of evening prints. The great case will be the subject of table talk wherever two or three are gathered together; a thousand voices will declare that the plaintiff is the man, and another thousand that he is "nothing of the kind." In the carriages on the Underground Railway, and inside and outside omnibuses, there will be an increase of readers: knowing men will be sagacious and laugh or give evidence of a calm, resigned indignation at the plaintiff's replies to the Solicitor-General. The comic journals will again be humorous on incidents of the case, and give us more specimens of a new class of wit which does not provoke laughter in the ordinary mind, the joke, as a rule, being so subtle in its nature that only a few are enabled to enjoy it. We are sorry for this new movement on the part of our comic writers; we should be glad if they would descend a little from that great height of refined wit to which they have attained, and give us something that more of our fellows can appreciate.

"We pray you remember the 5th of November!" Our readers who were about town on Monday could not well forget it. There was the usual number of wry-necked guys, with fingers out of joint and fiery complexions, carried through the streets by enthusiastic youngsters, who began their peregrinations with daybreak, stopping before the windows of inoffensive people at breakfast, with "Goy! goy! goy! please-to-remember-fifth-November-gunpowder-treason-plot, for-we-know-no-reason-why-gunpowder-treason-should-ever-be-forgot—goy! goy! goy!" The *Daily Telegraph*, however, had a strong reason why gunpowder treason should be forgot, at least as far as the carrying of guys is concerned, and expressed a hope that the authorities would enforce "those clauses in the Police Acts which relate to obstructions of the thoroughfares." Notwithstanding, the 5th, or rather the 6th of November was celebrated; but the festival that used to brighten this foggy season is evidently falling off, and will go out as the May-day festival has gone out. It was thought that delightful custom of "doing observance to a morn of May" could never grow old. In the fifth act of "Henry VIII." the Porter's man exclaims of the crowd—

——— 'Tis as much impossible
To scatter 'em as 'tis to make 'em sleep
On May-day morning, which will never be.

The Porter's man was not a prophet. Our boys and girls do sleep on May-day morning now, and in many cases till May-day noon.

The first genuine November fog visited London on Tuesday. It threw a deep shade over the City; public clocks were illuminated, shop windows were in a blaze of gas at noon. The fog had several colours, brown, grey, and yellow, and as many tastes, but not "tasting of Flora and the country green." It reminded us more of the Thames. It was a dry fog, and lasted for several hours, the traffic being much hindered.

We think it possible that there could be an improvement in the management of the Metropolitan Railway. There have been several accidents lately, no doubt more than have been recorded, and we are continually hearing of complaints. It is almost necessary for a man to be an acrobat to travel on the Underground successfully. Though there be twenty elderly ladies or as many weak old gentlemen in the act of getting in or out the train, the guard, having stayed the ordinary time of about half a minute, waves his flag and shouts "All right!" the train starting with the doors open and the passengers tumbling about inside the carriages. The travellers, having recovered from the confusion consequent upon a too hurried start, are often stopped for several minutes in the most sulphurous part of a long tunnel. For countrymen there is scarcely any assistance. The officials will not waste time in talking to such slow people. If a gentleman strange to London asks where he is when the train stops, he is somewhere else before he can obtain the desired information. The boards showing the names of the stations are of little use—they can only be seen from the carriages directly opposite to them. At one or two of the platforms we have noticed the names painted on every lamp, where they may be seen by day or night. If this system were carried out along the whole line the last grievance of which we complain would no longer exist.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

Congreve's "Love for Love," reduced from five acts to three by Mr. John Hollingshead, was successfully produced at the Gaiety on Saturday. It is Congreve's best production; the dialogue is witty, and there is variety of character. It is an awkward play for an adapter to deal with nevertheless. To make it acceptable to a general audience he must cut out all that is offensive, and in doing so he may be said to cut out Congreve. The task is most difficult, involving more labour than satisfaction. The adapter must either offend his patrons or do an injustice to Congreve, who excelled in what must be struck out. Mr. Hollingshead has chosen the least of two evils, and put on the boards a piece that may be listened to. Here and there it is perhaps a little "warm;" but what modern play is not? Mr. Hollingshead deserves praise for so successfully adapting this old comedy; he has done all with it that could be done, and we have no doubt "Love for Love" will have a successful run. Miss Ada Cavendish (an excellent actress) was pleasing and graceful as *Angelica*, and Mr. Stoyle as *Ben* (the first British sailor on the English stage) was good, and amused his hearers. Miss Farren (*Miss Prue*) is well suited to her part, but has not enough to do. *Valentine* (Mr. William Rignold) had some fine caustic speeches to deliver, which he did not make the most of. This part was originally played by Betterton.

To successfully throw a bouquet to an actress at a theatre requires some skill and judgment. It should not be thrown to hit the lady on the head in the manner we witnessed the other evening at a theatre that shall be nameless, nor should it tumble in the orchestra, or fall on the stage at such a place and such a time that it shall be difficult to say for whom it is intended. In the first act of "La Belle Hélène" at the Gaiety on Saturday, a bouquet was thrown when Miss Julia Matthews and Miss Loseby were both on the stage. It fell against the footlights, and remained there until *Calchas* (Mr. Stoyle) took it up. He presented it to Miss Matthews, who, with good taste, refused it. He offered it to Miss Loseby, and it was again rejected. This was an awkward moment, but Stoyle turned it to good account, and brought down the unanimous applause of the house. "Another sacrifice at the altar of Venus, by Jove!" he exclaimed, and carried it into the Temple.

"The Woman in White" at the Olympic, and "Partners for Life" at the Globe, continue to attract good houses, and will, no doubt, run for a long time.

Mr. Mapleson, with the consent of Mr. Gye, is giving, according to yearly custom, a short series of operatic representations at Covent Garden Theatre. An excellent orchestra, chiefly selected from that of Her Majesty's Opera, Drury Lane, with Signor Li Colsi as conductor, together with a good chorus and a company of principals of more than average strength, enables him to offer an entertainment which even in the regular season might pass without challenge, and just now is doubly welcome to the lovers of Italian opera.

"The Mystery of Edwin Drood," founded on Dickens's unfinished novel, was produced at the Surrey on Saturday. The drama, like the novel, is a mystery. The dialogue, however, is well written, and Mr. Neville (*John Jasper*) and Miss M. B. Jones (*Rosa Budd*) understand their parts, and display good acting. The scenery, by Mr. Julian Hicks, is excellent. The "Ticket of Leave Man" concluded the entertainment.

The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, preaching the other day on the subject of the Chicago fire, said:—"O for a diamond-pointed pen to catch up all the sweet truths, the noble self-sacrifices, which this fire has brought to light! What heroic achievements! More than we know—not more than angels chronicle. Let us waste no more tears over Chicago. She is not dead, but sleepeth. Hope is characteristic of that community. Manhood is struggling up in Chicago to-day. Men are digging through ashes to lay hot foundations. Is not manhood better than gold? This spectacle is making the country rich; and oh, the noble examples of love! The Queen of England, from her Imperial throne, flashes an order to Canada to empty the storehouses of blankets and send them to Chicago. That touches my heart. There is more in those blankets to bind Canada and Great Britain to our hearts than all England's muskets and all her ships of war. In our late war there was some feeling aroused between England and this country. She has touched the other side of the chord now. The City of London gives one thousand guineas from its own treasury. Thank God there is one city in the world that's got a thousand guineas to give—whose treasury is not completely empty. Churches and theatres combine in the noble work. God bless the theatres! The whole world is marching to one tune; the drum stops, and the heart of love beats, and that's the music we are marching to to-day."

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE RIGI RAILWAY.

NOT long ago there were no railways in Switzerland, and it was doubted whether there ever would be any, owing to physical obstacles and to inter-cantonal jealousies. The Confederation possesses good railway communication now, however, and science has overcome the greatest difficulties. More than ten years ago M. Riggenbach, the mechanical engineer of the Swiss Central Railway, conceived the idea of causing locomotives to climb mountains by means of a toothed wheel, but his invention languished for want of encouragement until the successful construction of the Mount Washington Railway in America proved that his idea was capable of practical exertion. This railway climbs the side of the White Mountains of New Hampshire till it reaches a height of 5,285 feet above the sea. The gradient is about thirty-three per cent., or one foot in three, and the line has now been nearly three years open for traffic. M. Riggenbach, aided by M. Zschokke and other practical men, soon set to work in earnest, and ere long the inhabitants of the picturesque village of Vitznau, which nestles at the foot of the Rigi, were surprised at the appearance of a number of strange men, who began eagerly climbing the mountain armed with staves and levels. "They are going to make us a road," said the people of Vitznau, for a few years before they had not a wheeled vehicle in their village. But when they heard that it was to be a railroad, they shook their heads incredulously. Nevertheless, the work has been accomplished, and at the end of last May the line was opened for traffic. The length of the Rigi Railway is about 19,000 feet, and it extends from Vitznau on the border of the Lake of Lucerne, to the boundary of the canton of Schwyz, a short distance beyond the world-renowned Cold Baths of the Rigi, which are situated on the crest of the mountain, and 4,000 feet above the level of the lake. If necessary, the line can be extended to the Rigi-Kulm, on the summit of the Rigi. The permanent way is provided with a central rail, and is imitated from Mr. Marsh's Mount Washington line, but is constructed with more care and completeness, and the gradients are not so steep, the maximum being one in four. The most remarkable features of the line are an inclined tunnel 225 feet in length, and 1,000 feet above the lake level, and a lattice-girder bridge, formed of three spans of eighty-five feet each, thrown over the torrent of the Schnurtobel. The formation for the permanent way is made in the rock itself, which is cut to the depth of a foot to receive the cross sleepers. Upon these Vignoles' rails are laid, weighing from 30lb. to 35lb. per yard. Midway between the rails is placed a rack, into which gears the toothed driving-wheel of the locomotive. Turning to the engine, our sketch shows that the boiler, like the leaning Tower of Pisa, is far out of the perpendicular. It is purposely so arranged in order that it may assume a level position on the steep inclines. The engine is always placed at the rear of the train, in order that it may push in making the ascent, and check the velocity in descending. The speed attained is only a mile an hour. The cost of the line, including three locomotives, three passenger carriages, and three open waggons, was about £52,000. The fare for going up is five francs, for coming down two francs fifty centimes. It is reckoned that 30,000 people will use it annually. It is decidedly an engineering success, whatever the commercial result may be.

SCULPTURE IN THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

We give two fine specimens of sculpture in the International Exhibition. The first called "Orphans," is the work of Professor Tandardini. The second ("Left Behind") being by E. A. W. Wilke.

THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.

We have already given accounts of the construction of the Mont Cenis Tunnel and the opening celebrations. The following history of the undertaking, from the correspondent of a contemporary, will be found interesting to our readers:—"Mont Cenis is the central plateau of that group of the Cætian Alps lying between the pics—Rasin and Carro—which separate France from Italy, and the valley of the Arc from the valley of the Dora Riparia. This group of mountains is traversed by roads at two points. The one road runs over Mont Genèvre, and is of greater antiquity though less practicable than the beautifully kept postal route, which crosses the summit of Mont Cenis. About eight years ago Mr. Fell, an American engineer, obtained permission to establish along this latter route a railway of his own invention, with which he engaged to carry passengers and goods from St. Michel, French Savoy, to Susa. By means of a powerful locomotive and a third rail placed between the two ordinary ones, but higher and broader than these, he was enabled to ascend and descend with perfect safety the numerous steep inclines; horizontal wheels placed under each carriage and running on the central rail insured against slipping off the line, which, in such a country of precipices, would have been fatal, and powerful breaks applied to each set of wheels enabled the speed of the train to be lessened at will or stopped completely during any portion of the journey. This arrangement, coupled with the diligence, that old style of travelling, which traverses the same road, might perhaps have sufficed for the passenger traffic, but the daily increasing commerce between France and Northern Italy necessitated some more direct route for merchandise traffic. Already, in 1832, this want was felt, and the means of supplying it pointed out by an inhabitant of Bardonecchia, who presented to the Chamber of Commerce of Chambery a project for a tunnel from Bardonecchia to Modane, the actual line of the present work. Nothing came of this project, and Medail died without having the satisfaction of seeing his idea put into execution; but his idea did not die with him. In 1845 the Piedmontese Government appointed M. Mans, a Belgian engineer, together with Sismonda, an able mineralogist, to examine and report as to the feasibility of the plan. Their report, presented the same year, was favourable, but the war of independence, with its disastrous effects and the want of money, caused the matter to be thrown on one side until 1857, when MM. Grandis, Grattoni, and Sommeiller obtained the authority of the Government to proceed with experiments in tunnel piercing with a machine of their joint invention. The experiments were successful, and in the same year, 1857, August 13th, the King fired the first mine of the projected tunnel at Bardonecchia, and inaugurated the new works confided to the direction of the above-named three engineers. The tunnel was to be eight miles and a half in length, and to run from Bardonecchia on the Italian side to Fourneaux, just above Modane, in French Savoy. The estimated expense was £1,700,000, but it has in reality attained nearer £3,000,000—the Victor Emmanuel Railway bear £800,000, the French Government £1,104,000, the rest is at the charge of the Italian Government. On the 31st December, 1870, the last barrier was beaten down, and the two parties of workmen who had been advancing from either side met in the bowels of the earth about six miles from Bardonecchia, and in the present month the whole of the masonry was completed and the rails laid down from Turin to Fourneaux. The further portion of the line to St. Michel, where a junction is formed with the French railway, was not completed until the 1st October, 1871. The 17th October was appointed for the inauguration, and on the evening of the 16th crowds of Frenchmen began to fill the inns of the villages of Fourneaux, Modane, and St. Michel. The Ministers of Agriculture, Public Works, and the Interior, arrived to represent France, and the President of the Swiss Confederation on behalf of his country. There we also found the cream of French engineers, amongst the rest M. de Lesseps. At half-past ten on the morning of the 17th, the first train bearing the Italian officials, M. Visconti Venosta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Vicensi, Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, M. Nigra, Italian Ambassador at Paris, M. Amelot, Director of the 'Haute Italie,' MM. Grandis and Grattoni, Engineers of the tunnel, appeared at the mouth of the tunnel; M. Sommeiller, the third engineer, had expired about a week before the ceremony. A guard of honour was drawn up in the station at Fourneaux. Italian and French flags waved in every direction. A triumphal arch had been erected over the mouth of the tunnel, and trophies of flags decorated the fronts of the engines. At about ten minutes to twelve the train started for Bardonecchia amidst the *vivas* and the *bravos* of the assembled crowds, and at noon, precisely, we entered the tunnel. The passage lasted forty-six minutes. There was but little smoke, and the heat was never absolutely oppressive. At Bardonecchia we were received by a crowd of well-dressed ladies and gentlemen from Turin, and conducted amidst salutes of artillery and the lively strains of the band of the Guardia Nazionale up the hill to the immense tent which had been prepared for the banquet. This tent was nearly 500 yards long by 50 broad. The tables were ranged along the sides, one of which was open, affording a lovely view of the mountains; the other was tastefully decorated with flags and trophies of miners' implements. The tables holding the wine and viands stood in the centre, and an army of waiters flitted noiselessly about, supplying the wants of the guests. At the south end was the table of the Ministers, at which the engineers of the tunnel and M. de Lesseps also took their seats. The repast was sumptuous and the wines choice. At about four o'clock the speeches commenced at the Ministers' table, and all the guests (nearly 2,000 in all) pressed towards the south end. The only speech which seemed to excite any universal interest and applause was that of M. Lefranc, the French Minister of Agriculture, who touched upon the history of the work, giving honourable mention to all concerned in it, and particularly laid stress upon the future union between the sister nations, France and Italy. At five a train started for Modane to fetch M. de Rémusat, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, upon whose arrival the whole party started for Turin, where the festivities were kept up three days."

FREDERICK WILLIAM III.'S MONUMENT AT BERLIN.

The new monument erected in the Pleasure Gardens, Berlin, in honour of Frederick William III. is a noble structure, having a commanding appearance at a distance, and in detail being rich with fine sculptured work. Our first illustration shows the group to the left, and the second the group to the right of the base of the monument.

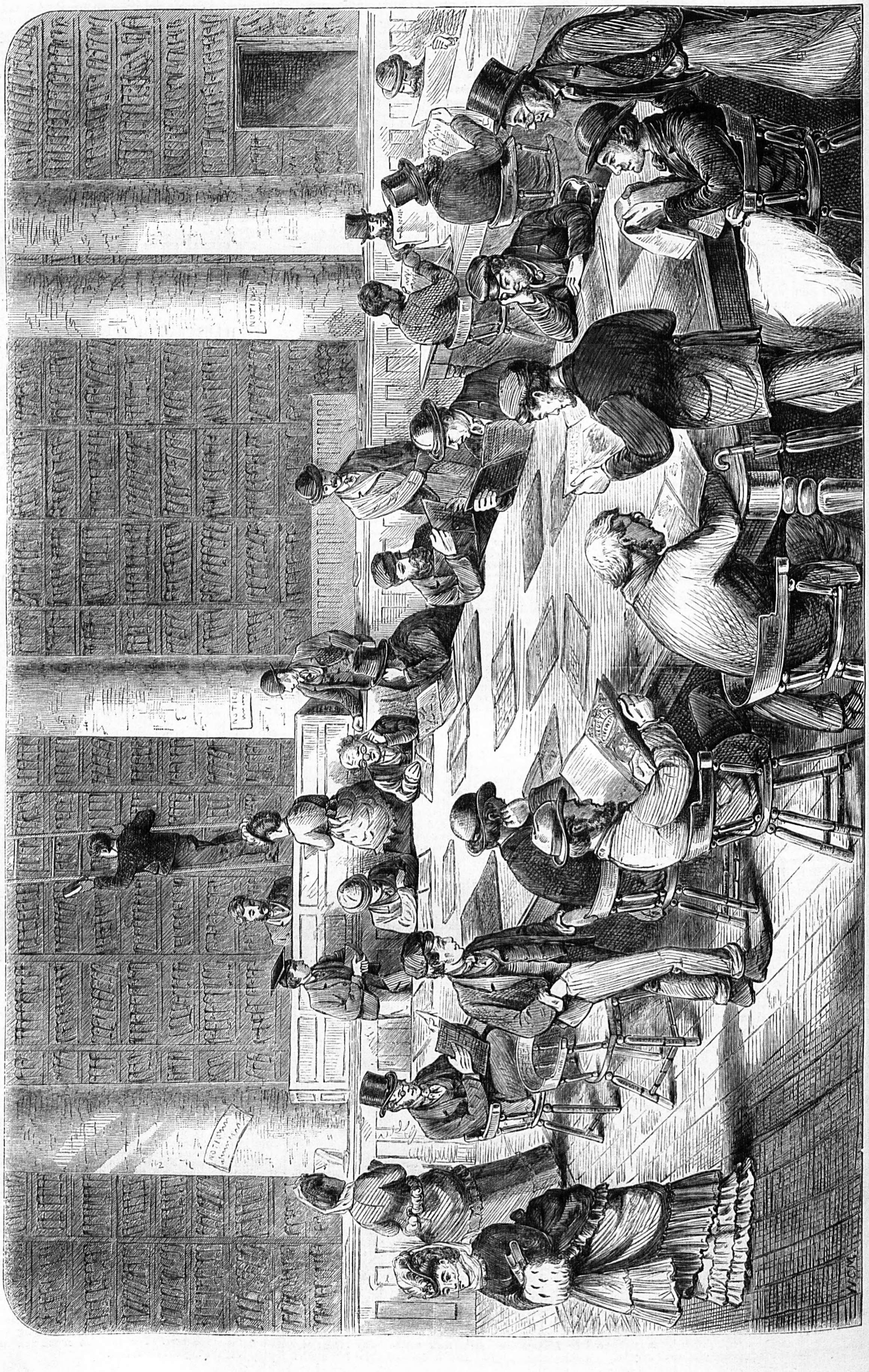
THE GERMAN STEAM CORVETTE "ARIADNE."

Our illustration represents the new German steamship *Ariadne*, which was launched with great celebrations only a short time ago. It is 200 feet long and 35 feet broad. It carries six guns—two heavy guns (72-pounders) and four 24-pounder Krupp guns.

ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPERS.

THE French authorities have set us a good example. They are suppressing the caricatures of the Emperor which, until lately, were allowed in Paris, the measure being taken not because Bonapartism is in the ascendant and the censorship of the press has been revived, but because they feel it a disgrace to permit pictures of the most offensive and indecent kind to be circulated through the country to the injury of public morals. We have no dethroned sovereign to caricature, Mr. Bradlaugh notwithstanding; but we are sorry to see that the illustrated press is not altogether free from features sometimes almost as objectionable as those which have stirred the wrath of the French police. In no country in the world has the art of pictorial literature made such rapid progress as in our own, and nowhere with such good taste and ability; and the three journals, the *Illustrated London News*, the *Graphic* and the *Illustrated Newspaper* attest our success and superiority in at least one branch of technical education—the art of delineating passing occurrences by pen and pencil. Like everything else, however, the art has lately been much abused, and abused in its worst form. Besides the papers named, some half-dozen sheets are now issued from the London press, all of which contain pictures more or less objectionable. It is bad enough that every dreadful crime and disaster should be set forth in wretched drawing and coarse engraving for the gratification of a morbid taste for sensationalism, but that by such means the public should be introduced to the life of the casino and of still worse places is surely not to be tolerated. Yet you can hardly pass a newsagent's shop without seeing exposed for view engravings which if published separately in Holywell-street would at once draw down the police and result in confiscation if not imprisonment, but which issued in a newspaper are circulated without let or hindrance. The curious pleas which are put forth in these publications in justification of their appearance would be amusing were they not contemptible. For instance, in one of Saturday's journals of this sort we have a pictorial imitation of the doings of a couple of Nautch girls described as "disgraceful conduct in the East End of London"—a flimsy pretence to regard for virtue justifying the reproduction in a pictorial form of a scene of vice and obscenity. Another method adopted in these prints for gratifying the prurient tastes of the million is to present under cover of an appreciation for art some of the works of well-known painters. "To the nasty all things are nasty," says Miss Faithfull; and a few days ago one of these cheap illustrated papers contained a coarse engraving from Ary Scheffer's Francesca of Rimini, in company with others of a different stamp, but all to meet a kind of patronage enough to make the old French painter turn in his grave. The worst of it is pictorial literature of this class seems to pay, and to pay handsomely. We need hardly say that its cost of production is enormous; and when these papers are being sold, some at a penny, others at a halfpenny, an idea may be formed of the vast number printed and circulated, and of the harm which is being done to the class of readers by whom cheap newspapers are chiefly purchased. An official censorship of the Press is at best but a clumsy expedient for checking the dissemination of either treason or vice, and once it is set up there is no knowing where it ends. It may be said, however, that news-agents who deal in these objectionable wares ought to know that it rests with them to a great extent whether this immoral poison shall continue, for a fraction of profit, to pass through their hands, to debase, corrupt, and destroy.—*Bristol Daily Mirror*.

THE Cape and Natal Steam Navigation Company (Limited) is announced, with a capital of £250,000 in 12,500 shares of £20 each. It is formed for the purpose of establishing a regular line of powerful steamers from London to the Cape, Algoa Bay, and Port Natal. The increasing value of imports to the Cape, and exports to this country, and the emigration returns, are sufficient to justify the most sanguine hopes of the projectors of the new line of steamers. The Colonies have long complained of the want of increased facilities for ocean traffic, and, we feel sure, will hail with great satisfaction the new enterprise. The discovery of diamonds in the colony is largely increasing the number of passengers to and from the Cape, and the prosperity of the Colonies and the increasing emigration from the United Kingdom will find continually increasing work for the new steamers. The direction of the new company is of the highest character.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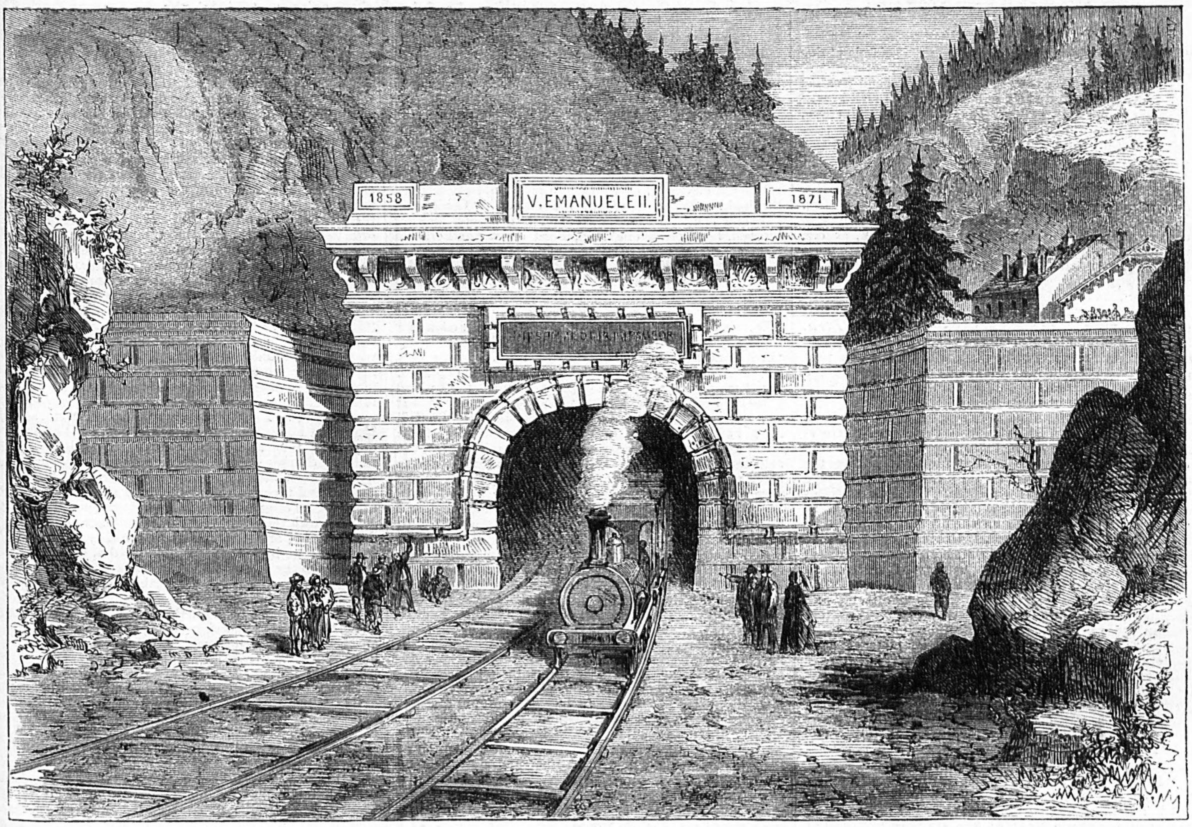
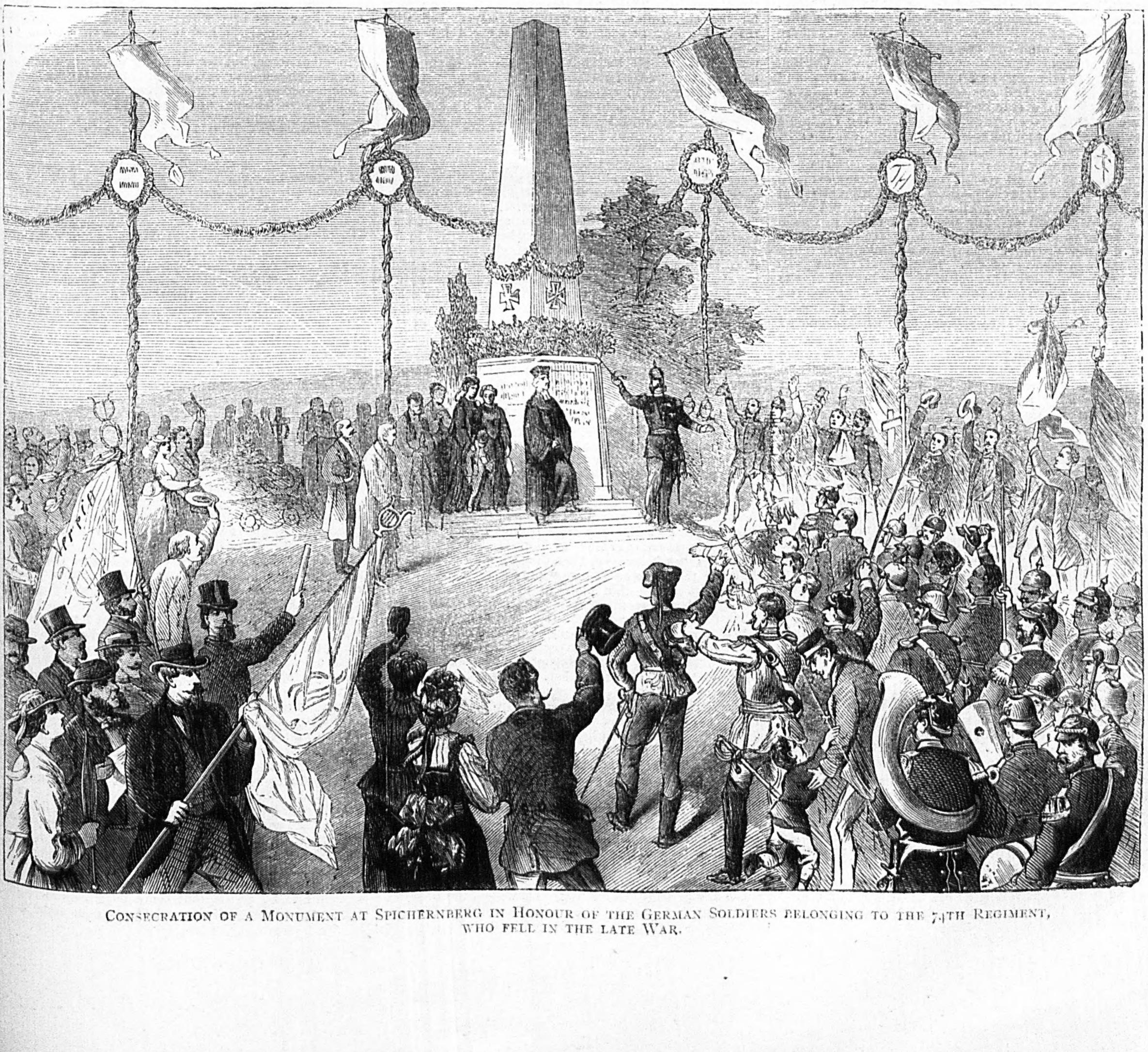


NORTH ENTRANCE TO THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL AT MODANE.



Consecration of a Monument at Spichernberg in Honour of the German Soldiers belonging to the 74th Regiment, who fell in the late War.

THE STORY OF THE MEGÆRA.

(From the Daily News.)

"The *Pera* telegraphed?" "No, sir, she's about due at five this afternoon"—the place was Southampton, and the day Saturday—"but the wind's dead against her up Channel, and she's not a specially quick boat." Five o'clock came, and no *Pera*. Ten o'clock came, and still no *Pera*. But the big ship had been telegraphed from Hurst, and about ten the mail boat was going out to her. But was it wise to go with the latter? It was not certain but that the *Pera*, declining to be interviewed by the little craft, would come right into dock before she stopped, and so give one the go-by. Nobody knew, but it seemed the wisest course not to chance the little voyage. At half-past eleven, to one sitting patiently on a spar under the lee of a shed, there became apparent at the dock entrance a huge dark hull, all studded over with lights, slowly forging forward amid the shouting of windlassmen and the hoarse words of command, "Slack away there!" "Tauten that starboard warp!" and such like. It was the *Pera*, and she was coming right into dock. So gingerly had the ponderous monster to be dealt with that it was past midnight before she was alongside the jetty and the gangway run aboard.

"The *Megæra* men on board?" "Aye, aye, sir," came in response from out of the gloom of the foredeck, through which was just visible a close semi-circle of faces. In ten minutes more two of the *Megæra* men were comfortably seated by the fireside, splicing the mainbrace in moderation as they smoked a quiet pipe before beginning their little story. Cautious worthies of northern extraction, they seemed, if one might so phrase it, to have "Baxter on the brain," impressed as they were with a belief, that was not quite easy to remove, that their entertainer was an emissary direct from the Member for Montrose to pump them to their hurt. Disabused of this apprehension, the conversation became much less constrained. It is a difficult and delicate task to reproduce the details of that conversation in the present phase of the unfortunate *Megæra* business; and nothing will be attempted save to narrate with greater minuteness the story of events, the outlines of which are already common property. It may be mentioned at the outset that the *Pera* brought home, in addition to nine officers of the *Megæra*, the following petty officers as witnesses:—Eight quartermasters, one boatswain's mate, three leading stokers, the diver, and one able seaman. Yesterday afternoon the party left Southampton for Portsmouth by the 1.20 train.

"Bad luck to St. Paul's, and to them that sent us there on four ounces a day!" was a toast that might not in a general way be objectionable, but had no great tendency to throw a light on the series of misfortunes which wrecked the *Megæra* at St. Paul's. It was explained, however, as being merely "blowing off steam," and then our friends settled to their work. "There were no complaints of the ship's condition after leaving Queenstown." "No, but among the crew there was constant grumbling and apprehension. You see it wasn't thought seamanlike to complain. Captain Thrupp, after having had up the petty officers, and heard what they had got to say, made his report at Queenstown; the ship had been inspected and passed there as fit for the voyage. After that the captain's mouth was shut, and the men warn't going to funk on it, and be jeered at, even if they were as sure of going to the bottom as they were sure of a day's grog. It was a straight upper lip all round; but some of the chaps—the married men 'specially—didn't make a great job of it. No; about the inspection at Queenstown I won't say nothing good or bad, whether I think it was a thorough one or a sham; it ain't my place for to be the judge of my superiors. There was no stoke-plate taken up for the inspecting officer. That's another thing—if you ask me whether there ought to have been, I answer that aint my place for to say. Between Queenstown and the Cape we had a good fair voyage, the ship averaging eight to nine knots. The weather mostly was splendid; I think, on my soul, that God Almighty in His mercy picked the weather for us on purpose. The ship was low in the water, and always cumbered with overcrowding and stores—it never seemed as if it were possible to get everything snug and shipshape, try how you would. After we left the Cape on the 28th of May, the weather, although it looked threatening sometimes, still stood to us like a brick, and on the 7th and 8th of June, we lay our course famously, running under double-reefed taw'sles and courses before a regular snorer—a strong sea on, and the whole water now and then coming tumbling aboard of her. It was that same day that we overhauled the Frenchman, and in the afternoon a marine was washed overboard. The very next day (the 9th), we sprung a leak, a devil of a big leak, too, for the water came in so that it took the pumps all their time to keep it under. Some of the chaps swore that the sodger, as he went to the bottom, had sent his knee through one of the plates; others would have it that he stuck his bayonet in her—but that couldn't have been, because the man didn't take his bayonet overboard with him. All hands at the pumps, and, by good luck, there being plenty of pumps, we managed to keep the leak a bit under. It wasn't to be found nohow. It was a time, I can tell you. A gale of wind, the old b—— deep in the water, and rolling taw'sle yard stun'sle booms under at every second roll; all hands, blue jackets and marines, working their hearts out at the pumps—always wet, and not a chance to get dry. Day and night it was alike, till after three days of it the men were fairly beat out, and we had to take to the fire engine and the donkey engine to keep the water down.

"It was Jock Brown, 'Scottie' we call him, that found the leak. Scottie is one of the leading stokers. It was on the night of the 13th of June. He had the first watch in the engine-room, and had to report the state of the pumps every half-hour to the officer of the watch. Scottie took it into his head to find the leak if he could. The bunkers had been in the way of a search round about below them; it would have been necessary to shift the coals from the port to starboard and then back again, and hands could not well be spared. But Scottie got about the bilges by the beam on which the bunkers rest that crosses the ship above the midgirder." (Here the narrator must interpolate a confession of his ignorance of marine architecture, and his inability, by reason of that ignorance, to understand, far less lucidly to describe, the technicalities of this performance of "Scottie.") "Scottie shoved his head down one hole and his light down another, and there in one of the plates under the bunkers—not under the engines—was the water coming streaming in like a water spout. He called the officer of the watch and told him he had found the leak. 'Where?' shouts the officer. 'Come and I'll show you.' Mr. ——— came, had a long look for himself, head down one hole, light down another, and then goes and rouses up the 'Old Man.' The 'Old Man' comes double-quick, lies down—we had spread a mat for him—and bides a long time with his head out of sight. At last he comes up to the surface, and turning to the stoker on duty, says, 'Have you called Mr. Mills?' 'No, sir,' says the stoker, 'he has not turned in for three nights before, and I was giving him a chance.' 'Call him at once,' says the Old Man. I was sent for Mr. Mills. Mr. Mills is the chief engineer. Up the passage by the sentry handy the wheel I went and called him. 'Leak found, sir!' It was not many minutes before Mr. Mills and the Old Man had their heads together. They consulted for a spell, and then the word was, 'Fetch Jamie Hares, the artificer.' Then the ratchet-brace was sent for, and a piece was to be drilled out of a girder that was in the way so as to let a man's hand in to reach the hole in the plate. I'll finish off the yarn of the leak before I talk about anything else. An inside sheeting of gutta percha clapped fast with a hot shovel was first tried, but that was stove in as soon as the ship got way on her, and the water began to press harder on her outside. Then Bell, the diver—he belongs to the *Excellent*—went over the side, and brought up word that the skin of the ship was like a rotten honeycomb. It was not so nonsensical, after all, for the chaps to hold that the sinking marine sent his knee through the plate, for Bell said he could send the heel of his boot through it with quite a moderate kick. He went down with a plate for the outside, while a corresponding plate was clapped on inwardly, holes drilled in the original plate, and a trial made to screw the outer and inner plates down to it. But, Lord bless you, the infernal thing was so thin and worn that the nuts could not be screwed home, and so the jury plates could not be fastened down. And besides, the bottom was so rotten that the new plates stuck on to it by the screws, and working loosely as they did for want of purchase for the rivets, threatened every minute as if they would tear the old plate right out. There's a bit in the Bible somewhere about putting new wine into old bottles. Here was the same thing for all the world, and the new iron was too strong for the old, rotten, spongy iron, honeycombed with rust. My own amazement is how the old tub could have kept going so long without her engines tumbling through the ship's bottom." "By G——, chum," put in here the "silent member," who had as yet only come out strong in consuming his grog and nodding vigorous confirmation to the statements of his comrade, "By G——, chum, it licks me how the bottom itself did not tumble clean away from the ship!"

"The leak and the rotten plates were bad enough; but perhaps worse was to come. The girders or ribs—I see you know little about a ship, sir—are the frame or skeleton of the ship, the iron plates bolted on to them, and to one another, being the skin. A ship is just like an open umbrella, the whalebones are the girders or ribs; the silk"—"Gingham it may be, sir," puts in the "silent member" rather disparagingly, as it seemed, as to my familiarity with a silk umbrella—"the silk is the skin. These girders are about eighteen inches apart. On four of them rests the step of the mast—in other words, on these four girders, two forward and two aft of the step, there comes nearly the whole weight of the heavy mast, with all that belongs to it. This weight is so distributed as to spare any one single girder—for it is, I tell you, a severe and sudden trial when a ship is suddenly taken aback, and then the downward push of the mast on to its bed is very great. Well, sir, one of the leading stokers—on the 18th of June, I think, this was—found that these four girders, instead of supporting the step of the mast, as they should have done, had decayed and rotted away for a good distance all around the step, so that the mast actually rested and lent all its weight, not on the ribs of the ship, but on its thin and weak skin. You see that there pillar, sir. Well, I reckon, if you were to cut away the flooring you'd find it resting on a good sturdy cross beam; or, mayhap, its weight distributed over three or four. But suppose there were no cross beams—or that they were all rotten, and that the pillar rested its own weight and all the weight it supports on the thin planking of the floor, I reckon you'd neither care about being upstairs or downstairs. Well, there ain't any downstairs at sea, only the bottom—and how we are here to-night instead of there has amazed me more than tongue can tell ever since I saw the step of that mast." "It licks me hollow, sir, as I may say"—put in the silent member. "With all that weight on these rotten plates," continued the other, "what possessed the mast that it did not go right slap through, I can't ever tell; if the ship had been taken aback it must have gone through just as a circus rider jumps through a paper hoop. But as it was the weight, although it had not made a hole, had borne so on the plates that the bottom had bulged down, and gone clean away from the rotten remnants of the girders. The man that discovered this state of things was a very quiet, cautious fellow, who didn't like putting himself forward, so he got hold of a chap named C——, a noisy, blabbing kind of chap, who he was sure would have it all over the ship in no time. 'What d'ye want?' says C——. 'Come and look at this,' says the other. C—— went, and after a bit of a look we heard his roar, 'By G——, the bottom's gone from the girders!' C—— makes a rush for the chief engineer. 'Where's this d——d place?' asked he, when puffing and blowing—he is stout, is the chief engineer—he got down. He was shown it, and the quiet man told him about having found it, and got a jacketing for not having come direct and reported it at once. 'Do you wish us all to go to the bottom at any minute?' was the question of the chief engineer. The Captain was fetched, and made a close examination. I once knew a chap so bad in consumption that he said he was spitting himself bodily away as he walked. Blessed if the *Megæra* warn't, after a fashion, spitting herself away as she steamed. The suction of the pumps was like the poor fellow's cough; it fetched pieces of the rotten girders up the pumps, and so out into the sea. But the fragments of her pretty well choked the pumps at last, for the Old Man found them obstructed with a lot of the old iron that had not gone up the spout. Ten minutes after his inspection was over the ship was condemned.

"You'll search the navy over, sir, before you'll find a better seaman or a truer officer than our Old Man." "By ——, sir, he's in the right on't there," interpolated the silent member. "You should have heard him reading prayers that Sunday forenoon. There warn't a shake in his voice, no more than if he were going below presently for a glass of sherry, instead of having it on his mind to tell his ship's company that his ship might go down at any moment. He aint much a speaker, aint the Old Man; but his words got pretty nigh men's hearts that day. He told us how that 'the ship's bottom was literally dropping out,' and then bade us go in with a will like men and British sailors. We gave him three cheers, and then we went at it, and started out a considerable lot of grub that Sunday afternoon and evening.

"But with the night came dirty weather. She began dragging her anchors, and at length they parted two of them, and we had to get up a full head of steam to keep the ship off the rocks. The wind was so strong that the old ship—she was always a crabbed awkward —— at minding her helm—once yawned right round, and was going stem on upon the breakers. The Captain got her out of this trouble by going full speed astern, but there she was, right out of hand, only one anchor left, and deep water under her, where not a soul could have been saved had she foundered. Boats? the boats could not have lived over the bar. And what a lot of boats she had! Why, sir, some of them were as old as herself, and there was not accommodation in them for above two-thirds of those on board.

"So the skipper gave the word to run her on shore, and chance it. It was the afternoon of the 19th, about half-past one, that the word was given: 'All hands on deck,' and the ship's head slewed round to the landward. The hands were ordered on deck so as to give them a chance should she strike the bar, as everybody feared. Half the crew were on the topgallant fok'sle, half aft, every man ready for a spring if she should break her back. Between the rollers and the sharks I fear it would have gone hard with them. Where was I? Oh, below, for somebody had to keep the steam on. The stokers were forced to remain below. At least it warn't altogether force, but duty, sir; for we never thought to grumble, although we never thought to see the deck again. Orders were to get on a very strong head of steam. The glands were leaking, and I thought every minute the steam-pipe would go." "Hadn't we got souls to be saved like the rest?" struck in the silent member. "They never so much as asked us to drink, but stuck us in the dangerousest place in the whole ship, and left us there to take our chance. My hair, I know, was a standing straight on end." "Why, don't own that you funked it, old chap," said the other; and then, turning to the writer, continued, "But it was an anxious moment. We talked down there about things sailors don't often talk about. The engineer contended that as we were down below on duty, and for the common good, we should be pretty sure of heaven if the burst-up should come. Then, as we neared the bar, we shook hands and parted, each man turning his face to the wall.

"She cleared the bar, and took the ground beautiful. She went on the rocks as smooth and easy as if she had been an empty egg-shell. If she had been a sound, strong ship her masts would have gone by the board with the shock, but she was so rotten that there was no shock, and the rocks came up through her as if her bottom had been of pie-crust.

"Most of the marines went ashore on the 19th, but the general landing day was the 20th. That night everybody slept on the sod, wet as all were—for the most of the work was up to the waist in water. No mistake—officers and men went in manfully together. There was no favouring the rank, that there time, for the rank scorned to be favoured. All fared alike, and fared thundering rough, too, I can tell you. We began to be rationed on the short allowance on the 20th, 6 oz. biscuit, ½ lb. salt meat, half allowance of sugar and cocoa, and half a gill of 'squaro.' Afterwards the bread ration was reduced to four ounces. In a day or two tents of one kind or other began to be rigged up, and some night shelter was to be had. Working day and night, it was trying to have but a pint of water a day for the whole of the first week. Of the goats killed, the officers had a share as well as the men. The messman had a good quantity of stores of various kinds, which the men during the voyage might have of by purchase, but on the island he was not allowed to dispose of any more. By the way, these stores are left on the island, and we might as well have had a share of them. But then, it is true, the Old Man was not to know that we should be there for so short a time; and I don't doubt, as you say, sir, that he did everything for the best. I haven't an ill word to say against any officer of the ship.

"After we had been there about a month the first ship came—the Dutchman in which Lieutenant Jones went to Batavia. The next ship was also a Dutchman, which took off some of the officers and boys. Some of the boys lost their kits, and there was a subscription for them among the men to buy them new ones. I think we ought to be repaid that there by Government, sir. Then came an English ship, which gave us some flour, and afterwards the *Taunton*, followed by the *Malacca* and the *Rinaldo*. Then came a severe gale, in which both the *Malacca* and *Rinaldo* were blown off, but the *Rinaldo* was blown furthest. The embarkation in the former was going forward when the latter reappeared and signalised that all hands should embark on the *Malacca*, which we did, and sailed from St. Paul's amid three rousing cheers from the *Rinaldo*. The Old Man was the last to leave the island, as he had been the last to leave the *Megæra*. And now, sir, I must leave you, for our orders are to muster at nine, and I want a couple or three hours' sleep before then. The *Malacca* took us to King George's Sound, then we came by the *Geelong* to Point de Galle, and so home. The P. and O. people treated us like princes, nothing was too good for us—beef and beer to the mast head."

MR. HOME'S EVIDENCE ON SPIRITUALISM.

MR. DANIEL HOME has been giving evidence on spiritualism before a committee of the London Dialectical Society, and the *Athenæum*, in reviewing the report of the committee, thus summarises the great medium's statements:—"The notorious Mr. Daniel Home was examined by the committee of dialecticians, and the evidence respecting his doings, given by the gentleman himself or his nearest friends, is worthy of notice. Mr. Home has been carried by the spirits out of an upper window in Victoria-street, eighty-five feet above the pavement, and conveyed again into the house by another window. At Adare Manor the spirits raised him from the earth to the height of three or four feet, and bore him along with them for twenty or thirty yards. The goblins sometimes catch hold of him, and pull him out, as though he were a sliding telescope, till he is stretched to a length much exceeding his proper stature. When he is in a spiritual trance he can lift hot coals with his uncovered hands, put balls of red-hot metal on his head, or thrust his face into a fire, without being in any way hurt by the heat. His opinion of himself is that he is a singularly unimaginative sceptic. He once saw the spirit-hand of the First Napoleon approach Louis Napoleon and the ex-Empress Eugénie, and write certain words with a pencil on paper. On that occasion, after seeing Louis Napoleon and the Empress kiss the spirit-hand, Mr. Home had the honour of saluting it with his lips. 'It was,' he says, 'disappearing. I said I should like to kiss it. The hand seemed to be like that of a person thinking, and as if it were a person saying, "Shall I?" It came back, and I kissed it.' Mr. Home does not say what is the apparent difference between the hand of a person when thinking, and the hand of the same person when thoughtless. He is of opinion that spirits, like men, are Wesleyans, Swedenborgians, Mohammedans, and of every variety of religious opinion. He knows that they occasionally wear blue coats with brass buttons. They have 'hair, and eyes, and nose, and so forth.' They are male and female; but he does not think that they have children. He cannot say that he has ever seen a spirit-dog; 'but,' he adds, 'I have seen something which might have been: but I could not tell whether it was the result of imagination.' Mr. Home has never seen a spirit-fish or a spirit-inkstand, but he once—even as Brummel once eat a pea—saw a spirit-bottle. Let us not misrepresent the witness. 'Now,' he says, 'I recollect having seen a bottle appear. I think it was a *water-bottle*.' He has seen many spirit-flowers, but he never saw 'the apparition of a coarser vegetable—a potato, for example.' It would seem that spirits have no appetite for potatoes."

MORE TUILERIES REVELATIONS.

THE Paris correspondent of the *Standard* quotes from the *Temps* some further extracts of the "papers" abstracted from the Tuileries by Messrs. Halt and Claretie. Amongst the documents published by M. Halt, there is a somewhat interesting correspondence between Napoleon III. and Victor Emmanuel, at the epoch of Garibaldi's expedition against Rome and the affair of Mentana. These letters establish the fact that, at the time they were written, the relations between the Governments of France and Italy were strained and of a most delicate nature. They also prove that the Emperor was quite serious in his proposition to call together a European congress for the definitive settlement of the Roman question. It will be remembered that the suggestion was void of effect, foreign Powers declining generally to send representatives to the councils. Some rather curious data are likewise furnished concerning the relations of France with Germany. In the first place, there is a letter addressed to Napoleon III. by a certain Mr. Curtis (evidently an Englishman), concerning the amount of encouragement by subventions it would be advisable to give to journalists in Rhenish Prussia and the Palatinate; it is dated 1868. It was no doubt intended to work upon the opinions and sympathies of the inhabitants of those countries. The hope appears to have been entertained of inducing the people to demand on their own account annexation to the French Empire. However absurdly hazardous such an attempt now appears, there exists not the slightest doubt that the idea was entertained and acted upon. These projects of aggrandisement, so frequently alluded to of late, are sufficiently exposed by the already published correspondence of a diplomatic character, which passed both before and immediately after the overthrow of Austria at Sadowa in 1866. The following letter from General Frossard will strikingly recall to the memory of the reader the famous communication addressed by the Emperor to M. Drouyn de Lhuys about the same period, and which was so warmly and unanimously applauded by the members of the Legislative Body. The Emperor endeavoured to establish that the frontiers of Prussia were imperfectly defined; required to be rounded off; that the German Confederation ought to fortify itself; and that Austria should maintain its position in Germany:—

"The geographical situation of Prussia (says General Frossard) is imperfectly defined; this Power requires more homogeneity and strength in the north. The treaties of 1848 are obsolete and insufficient to satisfy its national tendencies; but the modification effected in the map of Europe to the advantage of Prussia will disturb the European equilibrium, if France herself does not also obtain a territorial aggrandisement. It is, therefore, necessary to determine on the extension of our frontiers, and the neighbouring States should prepare themselves to demand their annexation to France. As for Austria, it would be sufficient that she should maintain her position in Germany. It acts both against logic and justice in refusing to recognise the principle of Italian unity, and in opposing itself to the entire independence of Italy. It ought, therefore, to cede Venetia to the Italians—this is absolutely necessary.

"The interests of France are two-fold in the struggle which is about to commence, viz., to maintain the European equilibrium, *i.e.*, to insist upon aggrandisement if a neighbouring German Power does the same; and to sustain Italy if she is not strong enough to resist Austria alone.

"To protect these interests, it may happen that the moral influence of France will prove insufficient; and that it may be compelled to draw the sword. We shall see. In any case, we have the assurance that the increased power and influence of Prussia will not be sanctioned or permitted without our consent.

"Let us, therefore, maintain a guarded attitude—calm and confident in our strength, and neglecting no means calculated to strengthen our position against any eventuality."

Under the same date M. de Clermont Tonnerre, attaché to the French Delegation at Berlin, gives one of those wholesome and instructive warnings which it appears to have been the misfortune of the Government to systematically ignore. He says:—

"The Government, in the first place, foresees that, on the morrow of the signature of a peace favourable to Prussia, foreign complications will immediately present themselves; but it counts upon these very complications to act as a sedative to the intestine hatred and discontentedness in Germany.

"To turn against France the enthusiasm and exultation which will be universal after the war will be a very easy task for the conquerors—at any rate, such is the general conviction. I think that I cannot do better, in order to clear up this point, than to cite—instead of my own personal impressions—a statement the authenticity of which I can vouch for:—

"The King, only a few weeks ago, said to a German diplomatist (at the head of a mission and a military man): 'If war should now break out between ourselves, we shall become reconciled at a later period by declaring another war in common.'

"We are, to-day, commencing to realise the first portion of this programme."

Another letter from General Frossard resumes as follows a conversation which Lord Clarendon had with the King of Prussia in 1868—a conversation which the noble earl afterwards related to the Emperor of the French:—

"Lord Clarendon repeatedly saw the King of Prussia, who said: 'I know that France is ready for war, and that her armies were never better organised; we are ready, too, but I do not wish for war. In undertaking such a war France, no doubt, will have Austria for an ally—for, in these times, alliances are necessary. We shall have the Russians with us, but such an alliance would not be favourably viewed in Prussia. The German people have no sympathy with Russia, and we should very much prefer to fight alone against exclusively French troops; but this war appears to me very regretable; I do not desire it; and shall do my utmost to avoid it.'"

PROFESSOR HUXLEY ON BODILY MOTION AND CONSCIOUSNESS.

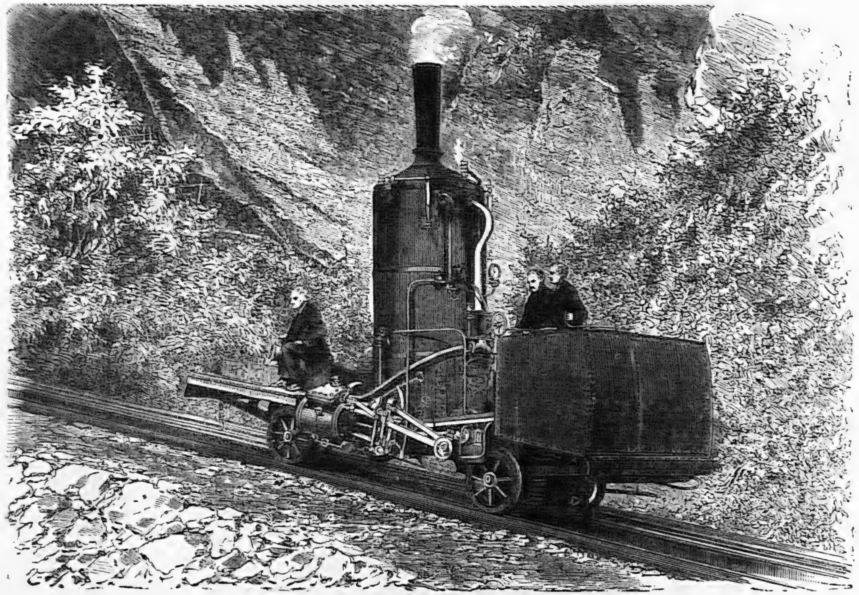
PROFESSOR HUXLEY, in his first lecture at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on "The Elements of the Physiology of Bodily Motion and Consciousness," quoted the observation of one of the oldest, and at the same time one of the greatest of our English philosophers, that "nature worketh by motion"—a saying which had been completely verified by the whole course of modern research. All scientific investigation (he argued) tended to the establishment of that proposition—namely, that all the visible, tangible, or sensible phenomena of the world are immediately the result of different kinds and modes of motion. But such phenomena as these were not the only phenomena with which we were acquainted under the name of nature. Quite apart from all these several modes of "motion" and their effects there were those phenomena which were best classed under the head of "consciousness." There were those feelings which were called "sensations," and with respect to these and other matters we had certain mental images which we termed "ideas" or "conceptions." Again, a very large proportion of the world of thought was made up of those peculiar inward feelings which were termed "emotions"—feelings of pleasure, pain, joy, sorrow, and so on. And, lastly, there was a very large class of emotions or desires which were intimately associated with the idea of something to be done, and which we were in the habit of grouping by themselves under the head of "volition"—intention, will, or desire to perform some kind of action. Everything connected with the inward feelings came under one or other of these heads, and if any alteration was to be made in this classification it was by putting "volition" under the head of "emotions." For the present, he did not wish to go into all the metaphysical subtleties of the subject, but would deal rather with the broad facts, assuming that there are these two groups of things in the world—the various kinds of motion, and the different sorts of phenomena of consciousness in the living body. These two groups were easily distinguished. There were some of those motions which seemed to go on quite independently of ourselves. As we could not by any effort of volition arrest the progress of the vast torrent of movement going on around us in the streets of London, so neither could we, dropping a pebble from the hand, interfere in the least by the mere force of volition with the rapidity of its fall, nor by any effort of volition move one hairsbreadth a feather on the table. It was necessary perhaps to speak with some caution on this subject, considering that there were some excellent people (the Spiritualists) who actually professed to be able to perform such wonders. (Laughter.) If one were able by such means to move even a feather on the table, the act would be thought something miraculous, and yet something which was in point of fact as wonderful was performed by any one of us as often as we lifted a hand to our head. This was an act of volition, and it was only because this phenomenon was so familiar to us that it seemed less astonishing than the movement of the feather. Again, there were movements of the body which went on independently of our will, such as the beating of the heart and the closing and dilating of the eye when light is placed near it and withdrawn from it. Hence the distinction between those bodily motions called voluntary and those which were termed involuntary, and the classification of the different motions under these different heads. Then there was a class of motions partly voluntary and partly involuntary—a sort of intermediate class between the other two. Such were the movements of breathing, which we could only control to a certain extent. There was another qualification to be made, namely, that all those movements which we called voluntary were capable, under certain circumstances, of being rendered involuntary. That was to say, we might be made to perform them not only with our will, but in actual contravention of it. This qualification was illustrated in the case of a person receiving an electric shock, when it was impossible for the individual operated upon to prevent the contraction of the muscles. The lecturer went on to notice some other instances in which the will may be more or less overpowered. One person in a company may suddenly throw out his hands in such a way as to make others, according to their susceptibility, involuntarily gape—(laughter)—and he (Professor Huxley) had once a little terrier dog which used to give some odd illustrations of this phase of the subject by setting up an involuntary howling when one would persist in singing in its ear. (Laughter.) What he desired to do in the present course of lectures was not to attempt in any way to account for the relations between bodily motions and mental states, under those operations which take place in our consciousness, because he apprehended that at present the nature of that relation was quite incomprehensible; but to examine the facts and show the nature of the links in the chain by which one set of phenomena was connected with the other. With that view he would endeavour at the outset to simplify the matter as much as possible, beginning at the end of the series of links and working back. He would take, as an illustration of the first step, the wrist or arm. There was a limit to its force of volition which might be measured by the weight which the arm could lift. The weight was its equivalent. That was the first condition to the act of volition. The second condition depended on the fact of the arm tendon being fastened to the shoulder-blade, for if the tendon were cut between the act of volition could not of course take place. The third condition was the wonderful powers possessed by the muscle itself—the biceps muscle. Under ordinary circumstances there was merely a soft roundish mass of flesh, but when the arm was bent it became thick and hard. This action or operation of the muscle on a mass of flesh, by which it changes its form, becoming shorter and thicker in proportion, was called the "contractility" of the muscle. The fourth condition depended on the small white cords called nerves, the integrity of which was essential to that change of form. Then there were the spinal nerves, which were equally essential to the performance of the act of volition, the limb becoming paralysed the moment they were cut. That was the fifth condition. The sixth was the connection of the brain. It would be possible to remove a certain portion of the brain and yet leave the man alive, but if that were done the person operated upon would be asked in vain to perform the act of volition. With the brain were connected the auditory, optic, and sensory organs, and all these conditions had to be taken into account in looking at the operation which must be gone through between the brain and the hand before the act of volition is performed. In his next lecture Professor Huxley will go on to treat of "Contractile Matter; Its Structure and Properties."

INVENTORS ABROAD.—Mr. George Haseltine, M.A., member of an eminent firm of London patent solicitors, states, in a recent address, that "more than sixty thousand American patents for new inventions have been granted in five years, and this rate of issue continues, giving vitality to all the iudustries. The money-value of these inventions is counted by millions—their value to the nation exceeds its vast indebtedness. The patent laws concede royal privileges to *first* inventors, without distinction and virtually without price, and the nation has erected a noble Temple of Art in honour of its hundred thousand patentees—the leaders of a grand army of industrial progress."—*London Daily Recorder*.

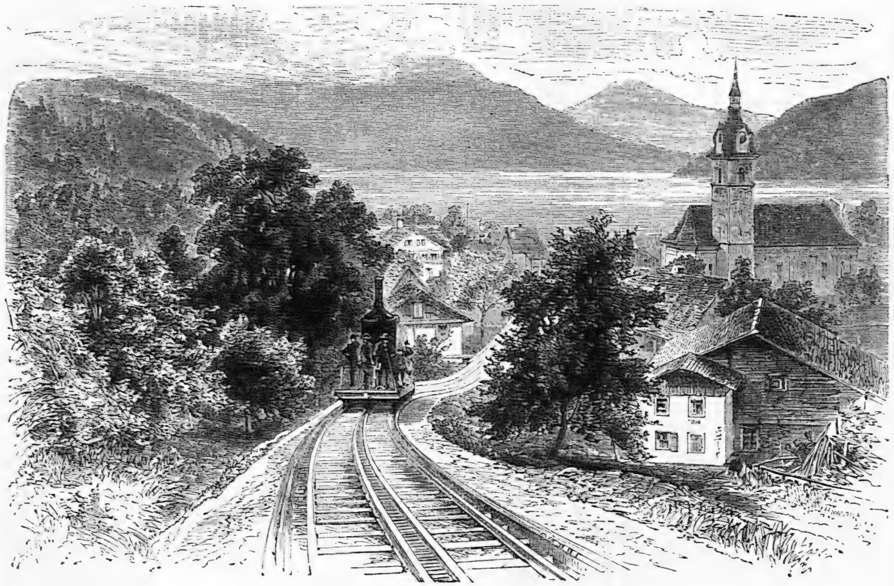
THREE gentlemen being at a tavern, whose names were More, Strange, and Wright, says the last, "There is but one cuckold in company, and that's Strange." "Yes," answered Strange, "here is one More." "Aye," said More, "that's Wright."

A SATISFACTORY understanding is said to exist between M. Thiers and the Commission on the Reorganisation of the Army. M. Thiers is understood to have modified his views against obligatory military service.

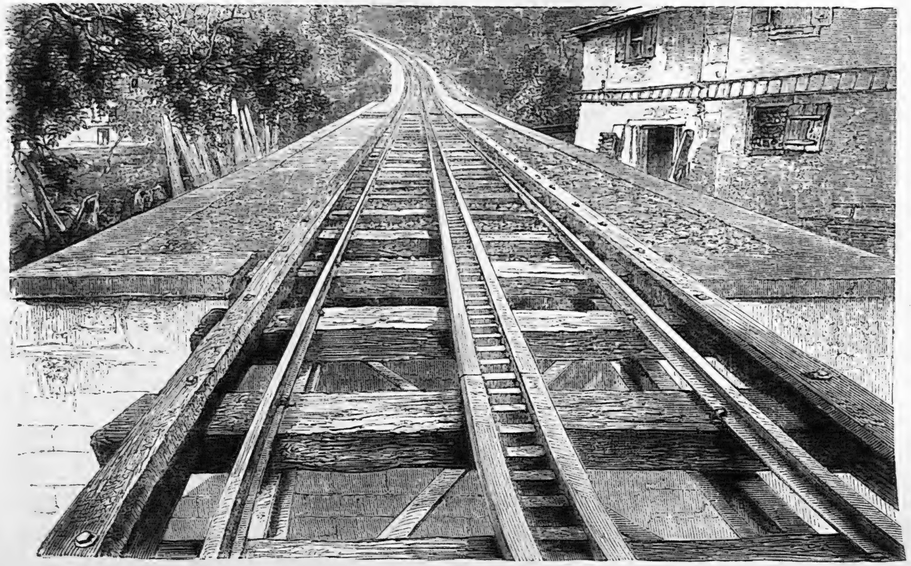
"After thoroughly testing it, I believe your Vegetable Pain Killer to be the best medicine for diarrhœa I have ever known. It gives speedy and permanent relief without any shock or causing constipation. It is a most useful and valuable family medicine. "E. T. BARRETT.
"*Surrey Chambers, Strand, July*, 1869.
506] "To Perry Davis & Son, London."



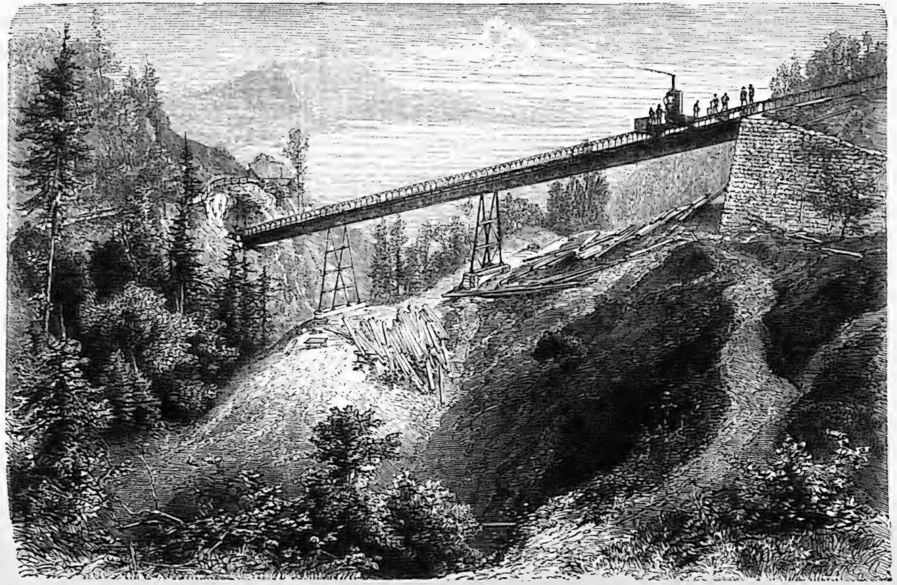
Mountain Locomotive.



Terminus at Vitznau.

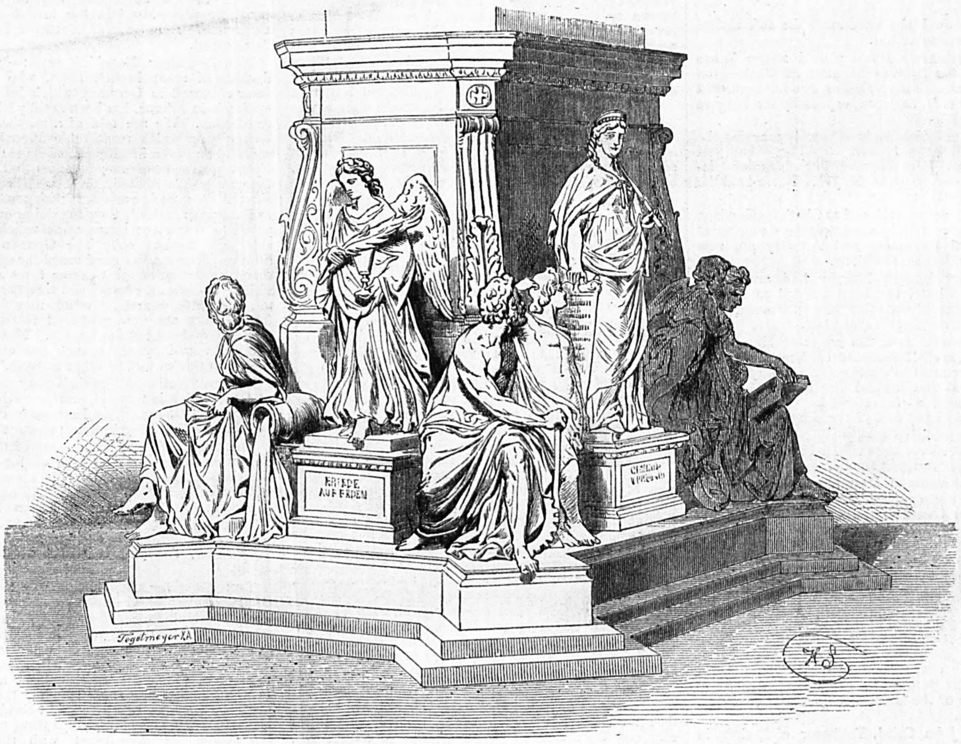


The Raised Line above Vitznau.



Tunnel and Bridge over the Schnurtobel.

The Rigi Railway, Switzerland.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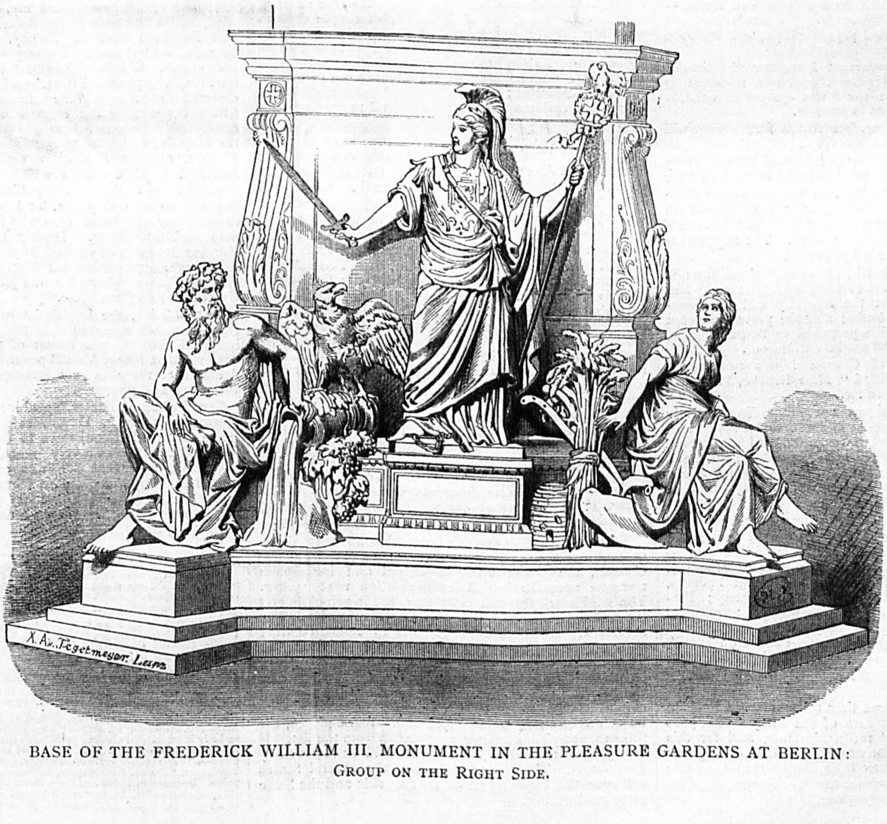
BASE OF THE FREDERICK WILLIAM III. MONUMENT IN THE PLEASURE GARDENS AT BERLIN:
Group on the Left Side.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BASE OF THE FREDERICK WILLIAM III. MONUMENT IN THE PLEASURE GARDENS AT BERLIN:
Group on the Right Side.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

SPORTING licences may now be granted to French inhabitants of the departments which are still occupied by the German troops.

THE 10th Hussars have been called upon to furnish twenty-five volunteers to the 11th and ten to the 18th Hussars.

A TELEGRAM from Malta announces the safe arrival there of the Eclipse expedition.

THE Belgian Government has placed 20,000 francs at the disposal of the Belgian Legation at Washington to meet the first wants of the Belgians who have suffered by the late disasters in America, especially the Belgian colony in Wisconsin.

A COLLECTION of diplomatic dispatches, under the title of "Rome and the French Republic," has just been issued by M. Jules Favre. The collection embraces the period during which M. Jules Favre held the seals of the Foreign Office.

THE various regiments stationed at Chatham Garrison which are open for recruiting are obtaining a number of men. The Royal Engineers and Artillery are now getting some considerable additions.

THE anti-Popery lecturer Murphy has arrived in Whitehaven, and a letter has been handed to him by the police authorities, threatening him with arrest if he addressed a public meeting in that town.

A CONSTANTINOPLE telegram says:—"Hass Keni continuing to be the chief centre of cholera, it has not been considered prudent to remove the sanitary cordon which had been drawn around the district. If the cordon be continued, a vessel will be placed by the Government at the disposition of the English residents who may desire to quit that suburb."

TWO more arrests have been effected at Lille in connection with the war contract frauds.

THE French Minister of War has reviewed, in the Champs Elysées, the cavalry, infantry, and artillery of the Republican Guard of Paris. Regiments of the egular army, including Cuirassiers, Dragoons, and Chasseurs, have been also reviewed, and the men of all arms presented a very fine appearance.

MR. MILLAIS has been engaged on two new pictures of river scenery. The views are from the river Tay a few miles from Perth.

AN appeal has been issued by a provisional committee, formed to make arrangements for a congress of workmen, to be held in Berlin on the 19th and 20th inst. The object of the congress is to establish a general association for the purpose of organising a strike to obtain a reduction of the hours of labour to nine and an increase of wages.

THE Rev. Dr. John Caird, Professor of Divinity in the University of Glasgow, has announced his intention to deliver a course of lectures to ladies on a snbject which has not yet been discussed in any lectures addressed to similar audiences. The general subject of the course will be "The History of Religions."

THE Dutch war vessel the Java has arrived in the Tyne, and she is loading 16,000 Armstrong shells and two large Armstrong guns. She has a great number of young seamen on board. Her crew consists of over 300 hands.

PRINCIPAL WILLIAMS, in opening the fiftieth session of the Edinburgh Royal Veterinary College on Wednesday, made the startling statement that foot-and-mouth disease attacked sheep and pigs, turkeys, and children drinking milk!

MR. SANDFORD, Government Inspector of Schools, has been visiting Switzerland, and has returned to England convinced that the Swiss system of schools and education is the finest in Europe.

THE faculty of medicine, formerly at Strasbourg, will in future be established at Nancy.

THE *Morning Advertiser* is informed that to every fever hospital there is to be attached a certain number of private wards for the well-to-do classes of the community. By the establishment of private wards in hospitals, as soon as any person is attacked he can, if so disposed, be placed in such a ward. The suggestion first emanated from the *Food Journal*.

A TELEGRAM from Madrid states that the difference between the two fractions of the Progressist party has been arranged, and that the Ministry will be reconstituted on its previous basis; also the prevalence of a belief that the confiscation proposed by Senor Angulo, the Finance Minister, will not be carried out.

THE first "book" of George Eliot's new novel, "Middlemarch," is entitled "Miss Brooke," and will be published on December 1st.

THE German Government are proceeding actively with the minting of the gold coinage to be introduced under the new law, and it is understood that about £1,500,000 will be ready before the end of the year, and a further £1,500,000 by February, thus setting free a sum of £3,000,000 out of the French payments at present withdrawn from circulation.

THE *Gaulois* devotes four pages to necrological articles on the personages who have died during the year. The two first pages are given to the army—Marshal Randon, Generals Abel Douai, Decaen, Raoul, Renault. Then come the Generals Clément Thomas, Lecomte; Archbishop Darboy; Abbé Deguerry; President Bonjean, shot by the Communists; political celebrities—Duke of Luynes, Baroche; literary men—Alexandre Dumas, Prosper Merimée, Ponson du Tenail, Paul de Kock; musicians—Auber and Aimée Maillart; painters—Regnault, Giraud, Cornu; financial men—Mirès and Millaud.

THE Horse Guards some time since directed that the whole of the subaltern officers of the army should pass an examination in road reconnaissance, and for this object a special instructor was appointed in each garrison. Directions have now been issued that the route marching, about to commence for the season, shall be turned to account for this purpose.

ACCORDING to the *City Press*, the piece of ground at the corner of Queen Victoria-street, Mansion House, has been let by the Metropolitan Board of Works for £5,500 a year, which is equal to about a sovereign per square foot.

THE garrison at Aden (says the *Lancet*) has been visited by an epidemic of dengue—a disease vulgarly known as the break-bone fever. The earliest attacks occurred about the end of June. More than 700 cases occurred out of a strength of upwards of 900 individuals belonging to the Rifle Brigade and Royal Artillery forming the garrison of Aden. The disease attacked officers, men, women, and children alike, but it did not prove fatal to any. It is believed that the disease was imported from Zanzibar, at which place, and along the neighbouring coast, it had been prevailing. Dengue somewhat resembles rheumatic fever, or that variety of scarlet fever attended with marked arthritic symptoms, sometimes witnessed in this country.

THE traffic receipts of the railways in the United Kingdom for the week ending November 3, amount to £926,792, being equal to £67 8s. per mile. For the corresponding week of last year the receipts were £846,588, or £62 8s, per mile. The *Railway News* says: "On the lines having termini in the metropolis the increase has been—on the Metropolitan District, £1,203; Great Eastern, £3,553; Midland, £7,209; Great Northern, £1,165; London and Brighton, £2,430; London and South Western, £1,805; London, Chatham, and Dover, £2,262; Great Western, £7,699; London and North Western, £10,017; North London, £436; South Eastern, £4,292; and London and Tilbury, £210. But there has been a decrease on the Metropolitan of £225. On the other principal lines in England there has been an increase on the Lancashire and Yorkshire of £5,412; on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire of £2,332; on the North Eastern of £8,970; on the Bristol and Exeter of £934; on the North Staffordshire of £1,254; on the Cornwall of £194; on the South Devon of £281; and on the Taff Vale of £155. In Scotland, the Glasgow and South Western shows an increase of £1,465; the Caledonian of £4,025; and the North British of £3,678. In Ireland, the Great Southern and Western shows an increase of £2,214: the Midland Great Western an increase of £1,231; and the Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford a decrease of £121."

M. DESANGES, whose charming portrait of Mrs. Trioleau in last summer's exhibition of the Royal Academy led some wit to say that he was "the painter *des anges*," has, it is said, lately introduced bits of coloured glass into his portraits in order to represent jewels.

THE quarterly return of the Registrar-General shows that in the United Kingdom the births of 255,836 children, and the deaths of 155,700 persons of both sexes, were registered in the three months ending on September 30. The natural increase of population was thus 100,136. The registered number of persons married in the quarter ending June 30, 1871, was 120,562. In dealing with England exclusively, it is pointed out that the marriage-rate increased, and reflected the brightening prospects of the people. The birth-rate remained somewhat below, the rate of mortality was slightly above, the average of the season. Small-pox, nine times as fatal as in the corresponding quarter of the previous year, was yet less fatal than in the last Spring quarter. Diarrhœa was excessively fatal in the summer and a certain number of deaths from simple cholera were registered; but fortunately, the Asiatic cholera, which ravaged the insanitary cities of Russia and some cities on the Baltic, has not yet found its way to England. The marriages of 97,304 persons were recorded in the June quarter; while in the third quarter, the births of 192,986 children were registered, and 121,236 persons died.

THE ancient city of Vaud, so picturesque in its situation, and so much resorted to by foreigners, especially English and Americans, is to have a pneumatic railway to Ouchy, the place of embarkation for the steamers on this charming lake. On the 26th ult. (says the *Swiss Times*) another trial was made of the model, at the establishment of Messrs. Kaiser and Luvillard in the presence of the Ambassadors of England and Italy, Councillors of State of Switzerland, both Federal and Cantonal, and the members of the Initiative Committee of this enterprise. The system of locomotion differs from that of the better known atmospheric one, formerly adopted on the line from Dalkey to Kingston, near Dublin, as also from that since established at St. Germain, near Paris. In these the motive power was applied to tubes in which rarefaction of the air had previously been produced. A void was first created by exhaustion, and the action of the atmosphere then sufficed for the requisite propelling power. The pneumatic system to be adopted at Lausanne is that of compressed air with a metallic tube between the rails. Several experimental trips were made on the model line, some of the distinguished visitors allowing themselves to be shot, as it were, from the one terminus to the other, the distance, of course, between them being inconsiderable. These experiments were satisfactory.

THE German Coinage Bill has undergone several important modifications in the deliberations of the Federal Council, the result being a partial and incomplete measure necessitating fuller legislation next spring. The gold standard has been accepted in principle and the decimal subdivision into marks and pfennigs. The several Governments have refused to renounce their right of coinage, and to make it a function of the Empire. They were about to renounce the right of coining silver, but Bavaria frustrated this concession, and consequently the Empire has refused to bind itself to change the light coin at its own cost at certain times. The gold pieces to be coined are ten, twenty, and thirty mark pieces, the fifteen mark pieces having been struck from the list. It is expected the thirty mark pieces will be removed by Parliament. The pieces coined in the several States will bear the Imperial arms on one side and the State arms on the other.

THE *Swiss Times* says that from the time that the French army of the East passed through the Canton of Neufchatel, the nervous fever has been raging in the village of Travers, where, out of seventy or eighty persons attacked with this epidemic, seventeen have died.

THE French authorities are liberating numerous prisoners who served in the lowest grades under the Commune. It is believed that Elise Reclus will shortly be released.

THE *Leipziger Tageblatt* says:—"The precipitate decision of many French firms, who had caught the fever of hatred to Germany which lately raged like an epidemic in France, has been rapidly followed by a bitter retribution. We are told of a number of cases in our own city in which respectable French firms returned scornful and even insulting answers to the orders of their German correspondents; but now that the fever-heat of the enmity has abated, these very houses have reconsidered the question and sent their commercial travellers to Germany: indeed, they are doing everything in their power to renew the connections which were so inconsiderately broken off. The German manufacturers, however, have made a good use of the opportunity offered them, and most of the German firms which have been visited by French commercial travellers have been able to reply that the articles which they formerly imported from France are now produced in Germany in equal elegance and not inferior quality. Hence, the fanatical enmity avowed by the French has only injured themselves, in this as well as other matters."

THE insurrection in Algeria is at an end. The province of Constantine is tranquil, and the natives are resuming agricultural labour. The Europeans of the colony are very busy with the forthcoming elections.

THE two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Peter the Great occurs on the 11th of June, 1872, and the Russians intend to celebrate it by opening a great polytechnic exhibition on that day. All nations are invited to contribute. The Russian Steam Navigation and Trading Company undertake to forward goods freight free. A committee is sitting at the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, to whom all interested should apply.

THE *Courrier Diplomatique* recently published a communication from one of its correspondents respecting a projected alliance between England and France, the terms of which, it was alleged, Lord Cowley had communicated to M. Rouher at the instance of Earl Russell. The *Courrier Diplomatique* now says, referring to the manner in which the announcement has been received by the English press:—"This for the moment is the reply we have to make to our neighbours across the Channel. There are in Europe three persons who must be thoroughly acquainted with this matter—Lord Cowley, Earl Russell, and M. Rouher. To these three persons we will add Prince Bismarck, who in time was informed of it. Until one of these four persons has categorically coutradicted the fact we have advanced, which in our opinion will very probably not happen, we shall maintain absolutely the accuracy of our information."

THE *German Correspondent* says Prince Adalbert of Prussia, Admiral and General Inspector of the Imperial Marine, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his entrance into the Prussian army on the 29th ult. After serving in various branches of the army, he visited Holland in 1826, and afterwards Great Britain, Northern, Central, and Southern Russia, Turkey, Greece, the Ionian Islands, and Brazil. These journeys, especially the last, convinced Prince Adalbert that it was necessary for Prussia to possess a fleet, and from this time forth he directed a great part of his attention to naval affairs, in which department the eminent services that he has rendered his country are universally acknowledged. In the Danish war he commanded the whole naval force of Prussia, and on Board the Grille he several times attacked Danish vessels which were far superior in strength. In 1866 he accompanied the Second Army in the Bohemian Campaign, and distinguished himself even among the brave men who formed it, by his coolness and intrepidity. During the late war, as the German fleet was compelled to remain inactive, Prince Adalbert accompanied his Majesty the Emperor and King to France, where he was present at the battles of Courcelles and Gravelotte.

THE *Union*, the Legitimist organ, replying to the *Figaro*, which asserted that the Comte de Chambord intended abdicating in favour of the Comte de Paris, declares that Henry V. will never abdicate. The *Union* denies that there is any incompatibility between the white flag and progress.

THE Bishop of Exeter, speaking at the reopening of Beaworthy Church, Devon, said he wished he could make some additional days to the week, because he found that there was a very great demand upon a bishop nowadays, and that he was called upon in every direction. But the pleasant faces and the hearty welcome he experienced in country places in Devonshire amply rewarded him for any amount of trouble and journeying he undertook.

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PATENT TEETH ON SOFT GUMS.—Mr. WILLIAM J. WATSON, Surgeon Dentist, 16, Newhall Street, Birmingham, begs to inform the inhabitants of the Midland Counties that he is the SOLE INVENTOR and DISCOVERER of a new system of fixing PATENT TEETH on SOFT GUMS, and, he being the actual Maker, is enabled to supply Teeth *at about one-third the usual charges.* Single Teeth from 3s. 6d. each; Sets from £2 10s., including all charges. Perfectly fitted at one visit. Attendance daily from nine a.m. till eight p.m. Consultation free. [164

Mr. Edgar, Butt Lighthouse, Island of Lewes, writes to Sir James Matheson, November 23, 1869:—"Mrs. Edgar cannot express her thanks to Lady Matheson for sending the Neuraline; it proved the most successful lotion she has ever applied. The relief experienced is almost instantaneous." Neuraline, applied externally, cures Tic Doloreux, Neuralgia, Toothache, Sciatica, Rheumatism, Rheumatic Gout, Gout, and all nerve pains. Prepared by Leath and Ross, Homœopathic Chemists, 5, St. Paul's Churchyard, and 9, Vere-street, W.; and sold by all patent medicine vendors, in bottles, at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each. [448

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For the year ended 31st May, 1871, 426 proposals, assuring £353,345, and yielding in annual premiums £11,728 4s., were completed; and, notwithstanding the large reductions in the premiums made by bonus in every fifth year from 1831 to 1866, both inclusive, the fund accumulating for the purpose of meeting future claims was, after payment of all outgoings, increased in the year by £106,674 9s. 9d.

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The Committee have for many years felt the want of an Asylum, in connection with this School, for the reception and maintenance of those who, after completing their pupilage, may be destitute of a home, or of parental support, or aged, or infirm, but still able and willing (so long as age and infirmity will permit) to continue their industrial, and, to some degree, productive work.

When the Committee applied to Parliament for an Act to enable them to remove the School into the country, for the sake of a healthier atmosphere and a larger space, for extending the usefulness of the Charity, they asked for and obtained the power to add an Asylum for the reception and maintenance of Adult Blind Persons.

Parliament annexed to the power the condition that the cost of any buildings to be erected for the purpose, as well as the expense of and incident to the management and maintenance of such persons, be defrayed out of any funds which may be specially given or subscribed for that object, and not out of the ordinary funds of the Corporation.

Therefore the Committee have no fund whatsoever applicable to this desirable object; and the addition of an Asylum must depend, for its erection and maintenance, upon the approval and support of the friends of the Blind.

The power conferred by the Act of Parliament has not limited the benefit of an Asylum to those blind persons who have been connected with the School. It embraces the Blind in general, among whom there are many more aged, more destitute, more infirm, and in so far as they have not experienced and cannot experience the benefits of the School, are more necessitous.

It was to prepare for this charitable work that the Committee obtained the requisite legal power to add an Asylum to their intended new Schools (on any land to be purchased for such Schools).

And now, having contracted for the purchase of the land, they make this APPEAL to the public for means to enable them to perform that charitable work.

The extent of the Asylum addition must necessarily be proportionate to the fund to be subscribed, but the Committee are hopeful that the response to their appeal will enable them to initiate a building sufficient to contain about fifty inmates (more or less, exclusive of attendants), and they will endeavour to make their designs capable of co-extension with future increased means and requirements.

The Committee feel that the object of this Appeal constitutes its sufficient recommendation.

The persons to be benefited are the blind (the homeless, the aged, and the indigent blind), those who are incapable of earning a livelihood.

The power to benefit them is in that large-hearted English sympathy which is so ready at all times, and under all circumstances, to help and soften the afflictions of humanity, the exercise of which has for more than half a century so eminently characterised the support of the School for the Indigent Blind.

The Committee have contracted for the purchase of twelve acres of land at the Caterham Junction of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway (fronting the line) for the site of the intended new Schools, and the addition thereto (if funds can be obtained) of an Asylum.

Proximity to the metropolis, facility of intercourse, and healthful conditions, induce the belief that the site will prove to be a very eligible selection.

Donations are therefore solicited, and will be received by Messrs. Bosanquet & Co., 73, Lombard Street, E.C.; by Mr. Grueber, 5, Billiter Street, E.C.; and by the Chaplain, the Rev. B. G. Johns, at the School.

All Cheques and Post Office Orders are requested to be crossed "Bosanquet & Co.," the Blind School Asylum Fund.

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1870.				1871.		
£36,165	8	10	Gross Fire Income	£55,139	2	0
27,554	3	4	Nett Fire Premiums	45,243	16	10
13,111	11	1	Losses	22,766	17	7
7,555	10	6	Balance of Profit and Loss Account	12,336	11	2
17,067	10	4	Accumulated Funds (Fire and Life)	26,869	14	2
68,492	10	4	Invested Funds, including Paid-up Capital	78,294	14	2

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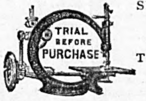

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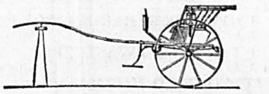

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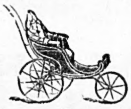

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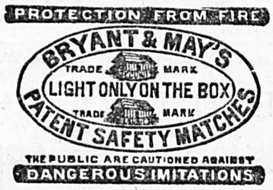

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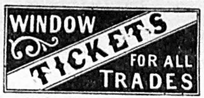

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